



Gifting: An
Enduring Honor

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Honoring Veterans

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Trail of Death Caravan

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HOWNIIKAN

Gtegangises (May 2013)

People of the Fire

Tribal Youth Council moves to new location at CPN Gym

Citizen Potawatomi Nation has opened a new gym which will be home to the P.L.A.C.E., the Potawatomi Learning and Cultural Exchange: A Youth Club. The new facility includes a learning lab to educate youth, a regulation sized basketball court with bleachers, a lounge and recreation area, and offices for up to five staff members.

The facility will allow the Tribal Youth Program to expand programs offered to include summer camps, after school programs and services to older youth.

“This facility offers the potential to continue caring for youth who may be left unattended after school each day,” said BJ Trousdale, project coordinator, Tribal Youth Program.

“Statistics show the juvenile delinquency and crime rates rise between the hours of 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. across the nation. By providing cultural awareness, fun activities, and ongoing education to youth until parents are available to carry out their family duties, this program will benefit the entire community.”

The P.L.A.C.E is specifically designed for youth from the ages of 12-17 years old, or

seniors in high school. The FireLodge Youth Council is comprised of local middle school and high school students worked with the Tribal Youth Advisory Board to create the design, plans and goals of the new program.

During the school year, the P.L.A.C.E. program will provide transportation from local schools to the facility Monday through Friday and will also be open at various times during school breaks and holidays. While there,

all youth will be required to participate in G.E.T. (Gym, Education, and Training) Smart- a tutoring and homework completion time. Other educational courses such as career and college readiness, financial literacy, a small library to encourage reading, and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) opportunities will be available.

Youth between the ages of 12-17 as well as seniors enrolled in high school are eligible..

The quarterly membership fee is \$25.00 per person (\$50.00 in the summer quarter). Please contact Michael Logan at 405-214-5110 or michael.logan@potawatomi.org to request an application or with any questions.

The Indian Child Welfare program received the Tribal Youth Grant from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention in 2009 to run the program. In the first five years of the grant, the team established a respected

name in the community by working with school districts and several tribal offices to provide life skills, education, after school tutoring programs, annual summer camps, and opportunities for parent education.



Chairman John Barrett and Vice Chairman Linda Caps cut the ceremonial ribbon at the opening of the CPN Gym accompanied by members of the staff, youth council and Shawnee Chamber of Commerce.

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Community Development Corporation helping Native American businesses across the nation

One of the gems of the tribe’s commercial assets is the Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s Community Development Corporation (CPCDC). Partially funded by a Treasury Department grant, the CPCDC’s aim is to promote community development and job creation through business counseling and funding for Native American-owned enterprises in Oklahoma and across the country. As one of the largest Native American Community Development Financial Institutions in the country, the CPCDC lends money to Native American owned business regardless of tribal affiliation in Oklahoma. For those outside of the state, the CPCDC will also assess and fund business loans, though that funding is solely for CPN tribal members.

During a trip to Washington D.C. in 2003, Chairman John Barrett heard about the program promoting Community Development Financial Institutions, which were designed to help fund small, Native American-owned businesses. The Treasury Department, along with other federal sources, meets a dollar-for-dollar funding plan, meaning whatever money the tribe puts into the CPCDC, the federal government matches it. These funds have made lending and business counseling a success for the CPCDC, which will celebrate its ten year anniversary in July 2013.

“We can do more for a potential applicant than an FCIC-regulated bank can,” said CPCDC Executive Director Shane Jett. “We’re not here to



Owen Davis and David Conway, owners of D.C. Cake Appeal in Shawnee

just turn a profit, though that is one of our goals. Our main aim is to help get locally-owned businesses going that will create jobs and develop the surrounding community.”

The CPCDC has made 249 commercial loans worth more than \$20 million while providing more than 1,730 individual applicants with business development services and financial counseling in the last year alone. In the last three years, this has resulted in 274 jobs being created or retained.

“Even if we review an applicant’s initial business plan and say ‘no’, we work with them to provide training and counseling to get their plans into working order,” said Jett. “A ‘no’ from us

usually means ‘not now,’ and our assistance aims to help clients become successful business people.”

In the areas surrounding CPN headquarters in Pottawatomie County, the success stories are evident. Local businesses like Shawnee Cleaners, DC Cake Appeal and iBall Instruments have benefited from the ground up approach that the CDC takes when helping a small business develop their enterprise.

“They (CPCDC) not only gave us the capital to reach our goal of expansion, but they provided technical assistance and continue to support us with their patronage,” said co-owners of DC Cake Appeal David Conway and Owen

Davis.

A testament to the business’ success has been its being recognized by a number of national honors for community development. In its brief time of existence, it has won the Harvard Project’s Honoring Nation Award, Wachovia’s NEXT Community Impact Award as well as being named the 2007 Oklahoma Minority Business Champion of the Year.

For more
information
about the
CPCDC,
please visit
cpcdc.org

Language and Culture

Mingoswenke (gifting): An enduring honor

With dawn approaching, a young woman hears the muted call of the andekshkwe [crow], a sign that mnokme [spring] has arrived. With the season comes rejuvenation and life anew. The village will soon be teeming with excitement as preparations are made for Zisbaktokégises [Maple Sugar Moon] and the annual migration to the sugar bush or skegnezezen. However, the excitement is no greater than for our seski [young woman]. For the last thirty days she has been confined in solitude to a maternity lodge, caring for and recovering from the birth of her new son. Attended to by only her aunts and nieces, the young mother is ready to rejoin her village. Adhering to cultural etiquette, she has been intently preparing

abundance of blankets, robes and animals pelts to serve as gifts to their respective committee of advisors and instructors. Similar circumstances were faced by suitors in their attempt to gain a spouse. However, gifting was not exclusively individual. Seasonal feasts and honorariums were held for clans and their respective bundles, at which all members of the clan and village prepared offerings. Such reverence was given to these articles that in many cases individuals faced insolvency.

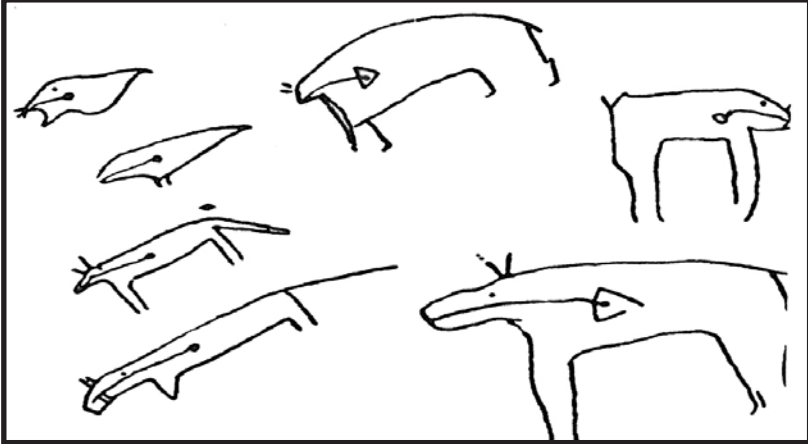
Serving as a testament to time and history, many of these ancient rites have waned from contemporary life. Foretold in the ancient prophecy of the Seven Fires, Potawatomi



Cradle Board courtesy: Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian

her son's prelusive feast. It is here that the father and associated clan members will see the child for the first time, praying for the protection of the baby and paying tribute to Kshamnedo [Creator] for what has been provided. Gifts are bestowed the newborn in the form of swaddling bands and its first cradle board, initiating a series of gifting feasts that continue through

people would be forced to endure a series of tumultuous eras that included a declination in sacred spiritual practices and a loss of ancient culture. From numerous forced removals, traditions became secondary to survival as the Citizen Potawatomi struggled to find a stronghold in the culturally desolate new land [Indian Territory] of confinement, forced assimilation, disease



Hunter's Medicine drawing courtesy: Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian

infancy. Aside from the gifts of physical necessity, each feast secures innate social and spiritual rites necessary for the boy's communal well-being. Solely the responsibility of the parents and family, it is imperative that these sacred rituals be performed. If neglected, the child could be branded an outcast.

The narrative is intended to illustrate the stately custom of gifting and its impact within traditional Potawatomi culture. Standards were established at birth and constituted every major event in a person's lifetime. From spiritual oblation and tributes of distinction to spoils of warfare and dodem recreation, all had subsequent gifting customs that were strictly enforced. It's social and psychological entailments were not only used locally to strengthen kindred associations, but cross-culturally to build and secure alliances with Native and foreign powers. During Giwségises [Hunting Moon] Potawatomi presented gifts and offerings to local spiritualists for guidance and prosperity amid the hunt. Those spiritually ambitious and desirous to gain membership into the Midewiwin expended huge amounts of resources in procuring foods to feast and an

and federal fraud, resulting in a multi-generational social, spiritual and cultural upheaval that had significant and lasting effects. Inasmuch, a time was prophesized when a new people would emerge; who would embrace the wisdom and united past of their ancestors and revive traditional culture, customs and values. Today, the prophecy of the Seventh Fire has been fulfilled as traditional gifting and feasting practices have a renewed vitality within ceremonial culture. Minding the customary sentiment and fundamental elements of gifting to honor the innate sacrifice and responsibility of both donor and recipient, Citizen Potawatomi observe these rites through naming,

marriage, death and the accomplishment of personal milestones. It is a tribute to the strength of many that these practices have survived and is the obligation of the younger generation to preserve and perpetuate them.

Language with Justin Neely

Bozho Jayek

I would like to give you some phrases to work on around the house. One great technique for learning the language is incorporating it into your daily life. It's much easier to remember words and phrases if you use them in the context of everyday life. When I was first learning the language about 15 years ago, I would speak Potawatomi to my non-Potawatomi friends first and then describe what I had said in English. Being my friends, they were supportive of my efforts to learn my language.

So to use it every day is as simple as greeting people you meet with "Bozho" (hello), "Bama mine" (later again), or "Migwetch" (thanks). Learning a short prayer in our language that you can give at family functions or just before you go to bed are other ideas. No need for complete phrases, just start replacing words with their Potawatomi equivalent.

For example start saying siwtagen(salt) when you want the salt or wishkebabo(pop) when you want a soda.

Some phrases/ words to work on this month:

Ni je na? (Nee juh nah) – "How are you?"

Anwe she shena (ahn way shu shuna) – "I'm fine." (southern)

I zhe anwe (Ee zhu anwah) – "I'm fine." (northern)

Migwetch- (Meegwehch)- "Thanks."

Igwien- (EEgwee in) – "Thanks." (heartfelt)

Bama pi - (Bah mah pee)- "Later on." (We have no word for goodbye)

Ni je eschegeyen? (Nee juh es chuh gay in) – "What are you doing?" (in the present)

We ni je o? (Way nee juh oh) – "Who is that?"

Nmetsena - (Nmet suh nah) – "I don't know."

Gbekte ne? (Gbuck tay nay) – "Are you hungry?"

Konege nbukte. (Ko nuh gay, nbucktay). "Yes I am hungry." (Konege is a southern word)

Ehe. (Eh heh) – "Yes." (used up North)

Byetnen I siwtagen. (byet nin ee see o tah gen)- "Pass the salt." (some folks say see tah gen)

Byetnen I waskek. (byet nine e was kuck) - "Pass the pepper."

Mine kedon. (Meenuh kuh dohn) – "Say it again."

Ni pi je ezhyayen? (Nee pee juh ezhyah yin)- "Where are you going?"

Take a few moments out of your day and try some of these phrases out in your daily conversations. If you want to listen to spoken Potawatomi, visit www.potawatomi.org/lang. We have a conversational book available with audio. Also check out www.fcpotawatomi.com and go to their museum website.

Author Jim Thunder has books available for download with audio accompaniments. We also have more language tools at www.potawatomiheritage.org and at www.potawatomi.org.

For those of you not in the Shawnee area, please check out our various online classes. Beginner classes are taught by Sam Navarre at 12:00pm Tuesdays, 7:00pm Tuesdays, and 8:00pm Wednesdays CST. We hope by offering a variety of times for our tribal members not living here will allow them to participate. If you are interested send Sam an email at snavarre@potawatomi.org.

Onsite classes include Beginners on Mondays from 5-6 p.m. at the Cultural Heritage Center. We also have a conversational class on Thursdays from 3:30-5:00 at the Cultural Heritage Center.

We have an online survey at www.potawatomi.org/pubinfo/language/survey. Please take a moment to fill it out. The information we receive will be used as suggestions for future classes and opportunities for learning Potawatomi. This survey will also be used to assist us when applying for future grants. Migwetch for taking the time to fill it out.

Youth from Child Development Center take first place in Native American language competition

Participants from the CPN Child Development Center competed in the Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair on April 1 in Norman, Okla. The youth competed in two categories at the 11th annual fair.

The youth won first place in the video competition for a video they submitted of them acting out the traditional Potawatomi story, "Turtle goes to war."

CPN youth also performed the skit in the live performance category for the Pre-K-through 2nd grade age group and earned third place.

Tribal Language Director Justin Neely was present throughout the day at the fair while serving as a judge on a number of competitions.

"It's tough to be a judge, but events like the Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair is about promoting our languages and cultures," said Neely. "I am thrilled that the students from CPN Child Development participated. They worked very hard on the live performance and video."

The Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair began in April 2003 to recognize the Native language teachers and students with its ongoing goal to show that Native languages are living languages. This year's event boasted participants from more than 62 programs who represented 45 different languages from across the country.



Layla and Atticus Smith accept the 1st place trophy on behalf of their fellow language students



The third place winners, basking in the spring sun after their competition.

How Eagle saved mankind

Long ago the Creator, Mamogosnan (our great father), became angry with mankind because they did not live in the right way.

When they prayed, they did not use the proper medicine, tobacco (sema), and they fought amongst themselves constantly. Some even disrespected their elders, speaking down to them and making them do hard work while the younger people played.

were living in the correct way. The Creator, thinking back to the days when he created man and had such hope for their future, agreed to wait before destroying them.

The next day, Eagle flew East in search of people who lived in the way Mamogosnan had instructed. Searching high and low, he found people, but none who the Creator wouldn't be disappointed in.

the West in pursuit of the sun. But to his discouragement, he witnessed men yelling at their fathers while grandfathers and grandmothers toiled at tasks that should have been done by their grandchildren.

When he returned that evening, Mamogosnan told him that while he admired Eagle's faith in man, tomorrow would be the last day for them on the Earth he had created for them.

Early the next morning, Eagle set off North. Just as the sun began to rise in the East, he noticed a line of smoke rising like a small grey string in the distance. As he got closer, he saw that it was not just one fire, but many. Villages had people going back and forth along well tread paths, trading and buying goods from one another.

Flying by one big lodge, Eagle looked inside. The tribal

"There are those that live in the way you instructed," Eagle told Mamogosnan. "If you destroy them along with all men, how will the others learn to live in the right way?"

The Creator thought about this a long time, and ultimately decided to spare all of mankind.

To this day, the eagle is sacred to the Potawatomi people. He is respected and honored

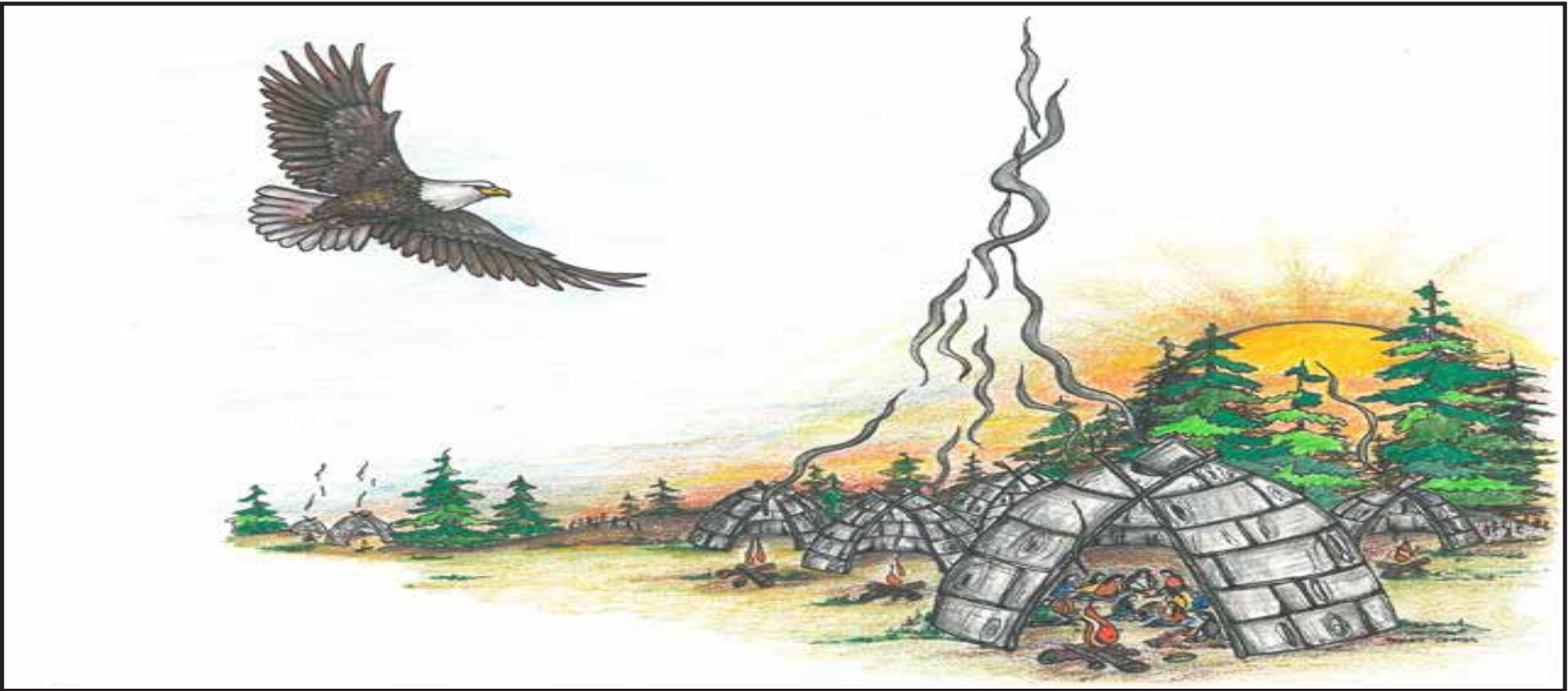


Illustration by Penny Coates

Angered and disappointed by their actions, Mamogosnan decided after one particularly gruesome day that he would destroy mankind once and for all.

Eagle, who had taken a liking to mankind even with their faults, begged Mamogosnan to let him find some people who

The second day, Eagle flew into the South, hoping to find people who would show the Creator that his instructions on how to live were heeded. Yet he found no hope there, only bands of people fighting over land, water and other things.

Still optimistic, Eagle took off on the third day towards

"Mamogosnan, give me one more day," said Eagle. "I've searched three directions, but a fourth remains. What is one day to you?"

The Creator thought about this. Touched by Eagle's determination, he agreed to wait.

members there were praying to Mamogosnan with sema.

Returning to Mamogosnan, he told of the people in the North who lived peacefully with one another and the Earth. He described the prayer smoke he'd seen from those offering sema in their prayers.

as a messenger between man and the Creator because he flies highest into the sky and carries the smoke from their prayers to Mamogosnan.

The seven grandfathers

In the early years, the Earth was hard on the people. Many died from diseases and others just passed on from the tough lives they lived. The Seven Grandfathers were powerful spirits given the responsibility to watch over the people by The Creator.

Seeing how hard it was for the people, the Seven Grandfathers sent their helper Shkabwes amongst the people to find one who could be taught how to live in harmony with the world. Six times Shkabwes searched amongst the people and found no one, but on his seventh trip he found a newborn baby who was unaffected by the hardships of the world who would be able to learn from the Seven Grandfathers.

Taking the boy from his parent's tent while they slept, Shkabwes left gifts of tobacco and a piece of his clothing to show them he had not been taken by a wild animal and would one day return.

When Shkabwes presented the baby to the Seven Grandfathers, they said, "He is too young to hear our teachings or gaze upon us. To do so would be fatal for him. Take him out and show him the four quarters of the universe and then return. When he is stronger, he will learn."

Shkabwes showed the boy many things across the four quarters of the universe. It took many years, so when they returned to the lodge of the Seven Grandfathers, the boy was seven years old. As they stood before the entrance, the boy realized that Shkabwes had been his uncle all along. Uncles help guide us in our journeys through life, and Shkabwes had done the same for the boy.

The Grandfathers told the boy of his parents and how they expected him to return one day and what he would

teach the people when he returned. They then pointed to a water jug, painted for the four directions and colors of people The Creator had made.

"North is white, West is black, red is South and yellow is for the East," they told him. Then they each placed a gift in the water jug, sharing it just as one does in the peoples' ceremonies today.

The first gift was wisdom, which would allow people to cherish the knowledge they attained. The second was love, because to know it was to know peace. Then, to honor all of the Creation, they gave respect. Bravery in the face of the foe was next, then honesty

to face a difficult situation with pride. Humility to know ones place in the expanse of the Creation came next, while the gift of truth to know and understand all of those things came last.

"But remember," they warned the boy, "for in the world each gift has an opposite, like evil is the opposite of good. You must teach them carefully in the right way to use each gift."

Shkabwes took the boy and his water jug back to the people, but by this time the boy was a fully grown man. In the spirit world, time does not pass, but the boy had been gone many years. When he entered his old village, an old couple stood in

front of the rest of the crowd and recognized the man as their son. They had understood the gift of tobacco Shkabwes had left when he took the boy and had always known he would return one day.

Then the man taught the people about the gifts of the Seven Grandfathers, and how they had to be careful of their opposites. He also taught them that the physical world also had a twin in the spiritual world, and that a fit body was as necessary to harness one as a strong mind was to harness the other. Using the gifts and understanding of the directions painted on the water jug, the people began to adjust to life and its daily challenges.

Diseases and accident didn't claim as many lives because the people learned to live in the delicate balance that comes in living in harmony with the Creation.

The lesson of the story is that beginning at a very early age, we must teach our children about the world. They are already aware of the things that are happening around them, so we must instill the values provided by the Seven Grandfathers in them that they will need to guide them along life's uncertain path.

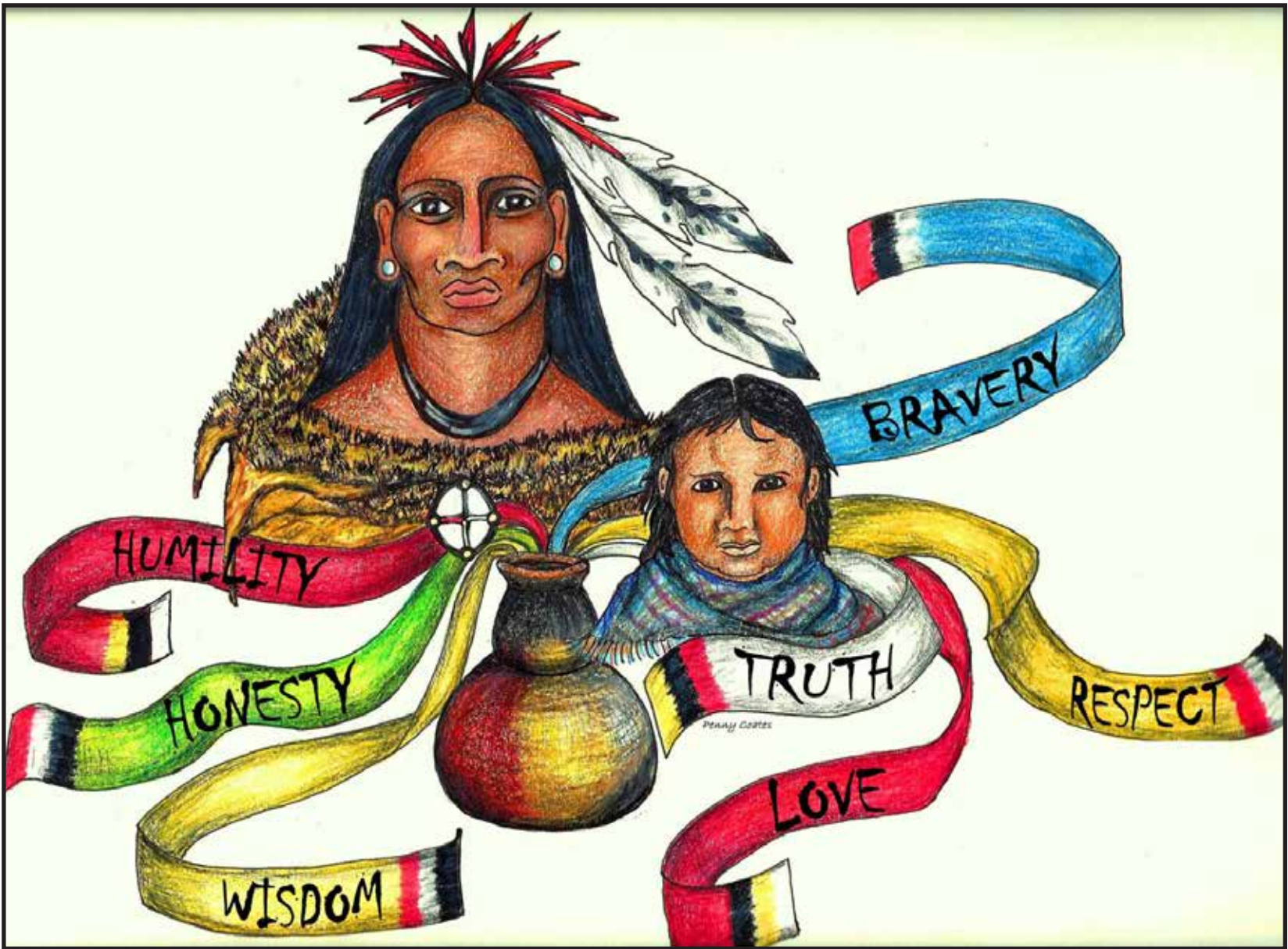


Illustration by Penny Coates

Potawatomi Cornerstone

By Charles Clark, Director Tribal Rolls

Bozho

This month's article details the academic career of Yancey Orr, a descendant of the Toupin family. I first met Yancey about eight years ago when he was invited to stay with the Nation for a couple of weeks to learn about the cultural and business aspects of our tribe. It was here that he wrote and directed a documentary film on the history of the CPN alongside Bob Trousdale, then-Director of the Tribal Heritage Project.

Yancey received his Bachelor's Degree in History from Yale University in 2001. During his stay with the Nation, he was working towards his Master's in Religion and Society, also at Yale, which he received in 2005. Two years later he would receive another master's in Anthropology at the University of California at Berkeley.

Yancey is not your typical college graduate. He spent as much time in the field as he did in the classroom. In the summer of 2003 he went to Mindanao the second largest and southernmost island in the Philippines. Home to the country's largest Muslim or "Moro" population, Yancey was there during a time of political turmoil where almost half of the indigenous population was displaced as a result of President Estrada's "All Out War" strategy against the Moro Islamic Liberation Front. That group sought to establish an Islamic state in the area. Over half of those people were displaced due to small armed groups carrying out blood feuds known as "ridos." And Yancey was right in the middle of it all.

During this time he



Yancey with his bodyguards from the Tausug ethnic group of the Archipelago of Sulu.

worked through the Paglas Corporation, a subsidiary of Chiquita Banana Inc. His primary research involved agricultural systems and violence in small farm holder and plantation settings within the context of the Muslim rebellion.

He returned to the Philippines in 2004 to Jolo working under a research grant in the Sulu Archipelago, the chain of islands in the southwest that rebels call Moroland. As a precaution, the local government gave him body guards. As Yancey put it "... everybody carries guns, even to the outhouse..." explaining that some villages could be very hostile while others were very friendly.

A few years later Yancey traveled to West Papua "Irian Jaya" in Eastern Indonesia. He worked at a gold, copper and molybdenum mine in Timika, Papua in 2007 - 2008. The mining company gives money to the local community for schools, hospitals and other needs. Yancey was a

Indonesia as a consultant with the Agricultural Research and Technology Department, and the UNESCO [United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization] on the Island of Bali. He provided legal analysis and planning for the Balinese UNESCO Proposal for the preservation of traditional rice agricultural and religious systems.

Yancey would go on to publish several papers of his studies. In 2010, he received the Dozier Research Paper Award from the University of Arizona for his essay "Coconuts and the Emergence of Violence in Sulu, Philippines." An article concerning the role coconut farming plays in violence among the Tausug of the southern Philippines. That same year Yancey would

phenomenological experience and symbolic systems shape epistemology."

In layman's terms, it studies how people learn about the environment around them and how to use it. Yancey went on to complete his Doctorate in Anthropology in 2012 at the University of Arizona.

Today, Yancey is wrapping up his tenure as Assistant Professor in the Dept. of Anthropology at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, AB, Canada. This summer he will be filling the position as Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia.

I asked him what it means to be Citizen Potawatomi Nation member. Reflecting on the question, Yancey reminisced about the Phoenix Regional Meeting a couple of years ago, when Chairman Barrett was speaking about the history of our people. Yancey said it is much like the history of the East Indies as told by tribal elders in that part of the world; the Dutch giving arms to allied tribes to combat other tribes resistant to their occupation.

In his travels and talking with local villagers, the stories of their people are parallel; adding that the Southeast Asians identify with Native Americans, striving to be sovereign, while losing their land to colonization and facomg eventual displacement.

"I can appreciate the lives of the people I've met..." Yancey said, knowing that he shares a similar ancestral history with the people he has come to call friends.



Yancey in a helicopter bringing supplies to a remote village, New Guinea.

Technical Advisor, managing these financial programs working in conjunction with the NGO [Non-Governmental Organization] of Lembaga Pengembangan Masyarakat Amungme to make sure that the programs were properly funded.

In 2010, Yancey returned to

receive the National Science Foundation Dissertation Improvement Grant for his Ph.D. dissertation entitled "The Emergence of Environmental Knowledge: Cognition, Interpretation, Perception and Social Labor in Balinese Society" that explores the "means by which

CPN member honors veterans with flag presentations

Citizen Potawatomi Nation member Roy Wano has an interesting hobby. More than 15 year ago Wano began travelling the country looking for opportunities to honor veterans by performing flag presentation ceremonies at major events.

"I do this because I have a deep love for our veterans and our country," said Wano. "If it weren't for them we wouldn't have the freedoms we have today. Any time I can honor them I try to do so."

Wano's began travelling with this giant flag in 1976, helping his father, MSCS Max Wano who is an Ambassador for the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame, and member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Veterans Group - Flag Team. The flag has made stops at parades, military events, conventions and sporting events.

The flag measures in at 76'X50' and weighs more than 2000 pounds when it's

open. It takes a team of about 40 volunteers to perform a ceremony. Wano does not charge for flag presentations, but does suggest a \$50 donation.

Wano will travel to Tulsa, Okla. with his flag to help celebrate the Tulsa Drillers home opener and to Shawnee, Okla. on April 13 for the Veteran's Awareness Celebration at the Shawnee Veteran's Memorial.

For more information and booking details please visit <http://neraflag.org>.

Wano is the promotions director for the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association. The mission of NERA is to promote "Honor & Patriotism" to our great nation. Honor the Veterans of the: Past and Present, that have made our freedom more meaningful. To remember the extreme sacrifices that these brave men and women have made.



(Top) The flag presented at the Oklahoma City Redhawks Opening Day. (Below) An aerial shot of the flag unfurled at the Stroud Veterans MC run.



Bozho,

There is a lot happening in the U.S that says thank you to our Veterans and Military.

I wear my Retired Marine cap because I'm proud to be a former Marine and it's a good way to meet other former Marines. I have noticed more

people, lately, approaching me to shake my hand and say, "Thank you for your service, sir!"

It always surprises me, but I'm starting to get used to it, and enjoy it. However, there is a growing number of businesses that are saying "Thank you for your service" as well.

Many businesses, and I do mean MANY, are giving discounts to active and retired military and veterans. One that I frequent myself is Lowes. A 10 percent discount to active and retired military and discounts to veterans four times each year. Home Depot is another business that gives discounts to active and retired military, disabled veterans, and all veterans on Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor and Veterans Day. The Oklahoma City Zoo gives a 50 percent discount to active and retired service members.

These are only a few, and you can find a complete list online at: militarybenefits.info/military-discounts/.

Veterans can get a Veteran I.D. at the Tag Agency to have it added to your driver's license by showing your DD214 or access it online at: www.vetfriends.com.

You're not just saving money, but also giving the country an opportunity to say, "Thank you for your service!"

At our March 27 meeting, we had a Smudging. As you may know, Smudging is the cleansing of bad feelings, negative thoughts, bad spirits or negative energy, both physical and spiritual, by burning sage, cedar and sweetgrass. The smoke from this burning is rubbed in the hands and waved, usually with an eagle feather, over the body of the one being cleansed.

It is a sacred ceremony that promotes good feelings and healing of the heart and spirit. Our Vice Commander, Clyde Yates, conducted the Smudging and it was a very pleasant and uplifting experience.

Remember the CPN Veterans Organization meets monthly on the fourth Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in the North Reunion Hall at the Potawatomi Powwow Grounds. All CPN veterans and their families are welcome. For more information about our organization and how to become a member, you can attend one of the meetings or visit the website at: www.cpnveterans.org. Migwetch! ‘

Daryl Talbot, Commander

Community Resource Officer connects with the most vulnerable individuals in tribal jurisdiction

Police officers are tasked with running in the direction of danger when everyone else is heading the other way. Psychologically, this leads many people, especially children, to automatically associate police officers with negative experiences.

“Many kids only see the police in negative circumstances, and that affects their perception of us,” notes CPN Community Resource Officer Kandi Cumbie. “This negative association has repercussions down the line when they don’t feel comfortable calling the police when we are needed.”

In an effort to show the positive sides of police work, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s Chief of Police, Dr. Jim Collard, created the position of Community Resource Officer after a discussion with Officer Cumbie following her move to CPN PD in June 2012.

“The community resource officer position is about connection and education,” said Dr. Collard. “Connection in the sense of allowing the most vulnerable segments of our population to have a direct line of communication with the police. And education in the sense of helping our citizens



CPN Community Resource Officer Kandi Cumbie

learn how to better protect themselves and their families.”

Cumbie, who has family throughout the Pottawatomie County-area, is a native of Baytown, Texas. She worked as a patrolwoman for the Cleveland (Texas) Police Department for two years before moving to the CPN PD in June 2012.

“While we didn’t have a

community resource officer specifically at my last employer, we made an effort to get out in the community and meet with people in positive circumstances,” said Cumbie. “After moving to CPN, I had a discussion with Chief Collard about those interactions with the community and he thought that creating the position was a good idea.” Officer Cumbie’s work takes her to a number of local schools, where she raises awareness on issues affecting

children and young adults. Educating students about the dangers of drinking and driving, teen dating violence and sexting is a proactive approach to policing that intends to keep adolescents from being victims in the first place.

With the opening of the CPN Gym, Officer Cumbie will also be conducting classes there.

She also works closely with the CPN House of Hope, a tribal sponsored department that serves victims of family violence, sexual assault and human trafficking.

“The Citizen Potawatomi Nation House of Hope Family Violence Program is partnering with the CPN P.D. in an essential collaboration between the departments and the community,” said Officer Cumbie. “We are in the beginning stages of the partnership and we believe that working together face to face will build trust.”

Community resource officers are becoming increasingly common positions at across the country as police departments assign specific officers to provide concentrated law enforcement and outreach practices of their communities. If you would like Officer Cumbie to visit with your group, school or other organization regarding her work as CPN’s Community Resource Officer, please contact the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Police Department at 405-878-4818.

Tribal police hone their skills with live training exercise

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Police Department conducted a training exercise designed to prepare officers for a live shooter incident. The training session, overseen by Sergeant Mike Hendrickson and Major Jody Opela, took place at two vacant farm houses on tribal land near CPN Headquarters.

The first in a three part series of exercises trains officers how to enter a hostile

environment where firearms may be present.

“This time around, we want to get everyone familiar with the exercise,” said Major Opela. “In phase two we’ll add a time limit, and then in phase three we will raise the intensity to reflect an actual situation an officer could face.”

The exercise consisted of entering abandoned farm houses owned by the tribe

which contained a number of targets. Some of the targets were armed while others were not. Officers practiced entering the residences and assessing which targets were hostile, a scenario faced by law enforcement members regardless of the beat they walk.

“We hold to the crawl, walk, run method of training,” explained Sergeant Hendrickson. “Officers start off entering the houses alone and untimed. Each stage the difficulty is increased.”

More than half the CPN police officers participated in the exercises along with representatives of law enforcement agencies in the surrounding communities. The overall goal is “practice like you play,” said Dr. Jim Collard, CPN Chief of Police.

“The idea is to get officers trained to deal with these situations through instinct and reaction,” said Dr. Collard.



Officer David Child enters a smoke filled farm house.

“We want them to be able to assess the circumstances and act according to how they have trained.”

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Police Department was founded more than two

decades ago to protect tribal assets and employees, increase public safety and enhance the general well-being of the community.



Officer Virgil Bonham approaches a farm house.

Anthony Cole
Candidate - Citizen Potawatomi - District 2



Who am I?

My Potawatomi name is Kokotni, I am a descendant of the Yott family which is a maternal branch of the Vieux family. I currently reside in New Orleans where I own an interactive media company. I currently serve as President of the St. Bernard Kiwanis Club and I am very active in my community.

Where do I come from?

I was born in Durant OK and raised in Madill OK. After high school, I joined the United States Marine Corps where I specialized in aviation logistics and data processing. After being honorably discharged, I used the G.I. Bill to earn a degree in Computer Science from the Southeast College of Technology.

Why am I running for office?

I am running for office as a way to give back for all that I have received as a Native American. While growing up my family fell on many hard times, it was the generosity of the Potawatomi, Choctaw and Chickasaw that helped us in our time of need. Because we belonged to the Potawatomi, my family was provided food, medical care, school supplies and jobs. I credit this assistance for my current success and feel strongly that I must repay that generosity in the form of community service.

What will I do if elected?

- Keep you informed of all tribal matters in a format that is easy to understand and readily available.
- Aggressively promote our heritage and culture by leveraging technology to educate our members and bridge our geographic divide.
- Support and encourage community service within our district. Community service is important and I want to organize an “all district” community service project each year.
- Improve your quality of life. I will work to expand our tribal services and think of new innovative ways to offer more services to our members that do not live in Oklahoma.

Child Development Center an important part of local education



Members of the CDC Potawatomi language class practice the skit "Turtle goes to war".

Early childhood education is proven to have beneficial effects on a child's future. Children who've attended such programs are less likely to repeat grades, need special education, or get into future trouble with the law. The issue is so important that it has been made a priority by President Obama during his latest State of the Union speech.

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation has its own tool to address this issue, an award winning CPN

Child Development Center, which educates children as young as newborns to 12 year olds. A two star Tribal facility, it is an accredited program with the National Indian Child Care Association, National Child Care Association and the Oklahoma Child Care Association.

"We wanted to provide Potawatomi children a place to learn and grow, and there were federal grants available for such work," said

Littlehead. "So we decided to start applying for the federal money, and we've built something pretty special."

The center is tribally licensed and can serve up to 400 children. The facility boasts two infant care rooms, two toddler rooms and individual programs for two, three, four and five-year-olds. All teachers are licensed and hold degrees in early childhood education. In addition to normal

early childhood education exercises, the students are taught Potawatomi by Randy Schlachtun, an instructor from the CPN Language Department.

Older children who attend regular elementary education at local schools, there are before and after school programs available. The facilities hours are from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, so parents can manage their work schedules around dropping their kids off.

The school employs 38 staff members, including 14 teachers with college degrees and professional certifications. Another 10 instructors are currently in the process of attaining their certifications and college diplomas.

The center's latest expansion used funds from the 2009 stimulus package through an ARRA Child Development Grant. Through the use of federal funds, the CPN Child Development Center purchased three school buses, which they use to transport students to the after school programs. Improvements were also made to the school's outdoor playgrounds, which is now completely covered by a pavilion cover in addition

to having self-impacting materials to cut down on injuries from falls.

The Child Development Center also operates a voucher program for Native American parents wanting help with costs for other child care facilities. The voucher program is administered by Keyon Permetter.

"I can help with getting funding for child care centers outside of here if it's more convenient for the parents," said Permetter. "I also can help family members get certified under state health guidelines to be caregivers to their own immediate family like grandkids, nieces and nephews."

While the Child Development Center is currently operating at full capacity, parents are encouraged to get their children's names on the waiting list as early as possible. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Donnette Littlehead at 405-878-4861.

FireLodge Youth Council keeping local teens engaged in their communities

The success of CPN's Child Development Center is a testament to the emphasis that communities place on the importance of childhood education. As tribal youth age, the benefits of structure and supervision outside of school hours can be lost. Those few unsupervised hours can have real consequences for teenagers and their communities.

"Youth councils like CPN's FireLodge Youth Council originally started as a place for reservation youth to meet and have some positive structure," said Michael Logan, CPN Youth Prevention Specialist. "Because we've found that if you don't have those positive structures, young people are going to be involved in things that can become bigger problems for the community down the line."

Logan and Family and Community Service Manager B.J. Trousdale act as the adult supervisors of the youth council, but the group's participants are represented by two of their own members. Trae Trousdale, an 8th grader from Tecumseh and Allison Creek, a junior at Dale, serve as the organization's co-presidents.

"I first became involved in FireLodge Youth when a friend asked me to come to a meeting with her to check it out," said co-President Allison Creek. "The program for tribal youth is important because it gives each of us the opportunity to get more involved in our community. On top of that, we get to know more about Native American culture."

The organization is in its fourth year and has grown from 12 members in 2009 to its current 32 participants. FireLodge Youth Council formed with the help of UNITY, an Oklahoma City-based organization which promotes positive outcomes for tribal youth. With support from UNITY, FireLodge drafted its own constitution and bylaws in 2009 and has since been serving the communities around CPN headquarters.

Given how connected those communities are, FireLodge is not an exclusively Potawatomi organization. While its aim is to provide an outlet for local youth to serve the community,



the diversity of its members reflects the communities surrounding its home base, the newly opened CPN Gym in Shawnee.

"A program like FireLodge Youth Council is important to youth of every ethnicity. For me it's been an amazing way to get to know other people my age," said co-President Trae Trousdale. "It's an amazing way to learn responsibility, about our different cultures and how to sit through a meeting."

"I think the group's diversity is a good thing," said B.J. Trousdale.

"Having those friends with diverse backgrounds helps them learn about each other and realize everyone comes from different places."

FireLodge Youth Council meets once a month for their general meeting, but their volunteer work and fundraising gives them the opportunity to work together more often. Their next big fundraising event will be the April 26 Indian Taco Sale. There are hopes that by late May they will be able to host the FireLodge Basketball Tournament, which was recently postponed. In

addition to these events, the group also volunteers at tribal pow-wows.

The reward for youth council's work is an annual field trip, though this year's destination has yet to be decided. In 2011, the group attended the Minneapolis, Minn. National meeting of UNITY, while last year they traveled to Branson, MO. to participate in a team building exercise. Due to the costs associated with this year's UNITY meeting in Los Angeles, Trousdale and Logan are still working on what to do for this year's trip.

But the uncertainty over their annual trip hasn't appeared to affect the group. Trousdale told of FireLodge's most recent meeting where a proposal was brought to a vote that would have sent a few of the group to the L.A. meeting while the rest remained in Oklahoma.

"We had an anonymous vote, and out of the thirty kids there, I expected at least a couple to vote for the proposal," explained Trousdale. "But it was a consensus; they all said we should do something together. I think that speaks a lot to their view of each other as family."

CPN's first tribal youth

program was established in 1990, and initially focused on serving youth who became involved in the juvenile justice system. After a brief lull in the program's funding, it was refinanced by way of a five year federal grant in 2009, becoming the current FireLodge Youth Council program. Under the new direction, the program aims to serve all tribal youth in a preventative effort to promote positive outcomes. All staff members have either at least 60 college credit hours, a Bachelor's or graduate degree and have received 32 hours of intense youth worker training.

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about the FireLodge Youth Council, contact either Michael Logan (michael.logan@potawatomi.org) or B.J. Trousdale (bjtrousdale@potawatomi.org). Their next meeting will take place on April 11 at 6 p.m. at the CPN Gym located at 2346 S Gordon Cooper Dr. Shawnee Oklahoma 74801.

**FireLodge
Youth Council,
contact info:**

Michael Logan
**michael.logan@
potawatomi.org**

BJ Trousdale
**bjtrousdale@
potawatomi.org**

**The CPN Gym
located at 2346 S
Gordon Cooper
Dr. Shawnee
Oklahoma
74801.**

Prepare for a visit with your health care provider

By Ronald B Shaw, MD
Medical Director - CPN Health Services

The Citizen Potawatomi Health Services clinics see 18,600 patient visits per year. Our current schedule allots 20 minutes for a routine follow up visit which makes up the great majority of our total volume. During those 20 minutes, the following actions take place to complete the visit, some of which are not visible to the patient.

- 1) Nurse reviews purpose of the visit, verifies medications, takes vital signs and enters this data into the patient’s chart.
- 2) Health Care Provider obtains a medical history from the patient, reviews outside medical records, performs indicated physical examination, reviews any lab /x-ray tests, discusses diagnosis and treatment while also entering a summary of this information, including all referrals and prescriptions, into the patient’s chart.

Quite a bit goes on in accomplishing these actions within the specified time frame to remain on schedule.

The 20 minute time period is quite similar to most clinics, with many allotting only 15 minutes for such a visit.

In order to facilitate the visit, please consider doing the following:

- 1) Prepare a short list of questions and present these at the beginning of the visit so that the provider may know how to allot time for these questions. It may not be possible to cover all of your questions during that particular visit. Many patients whom have not been seen for several months will have a long list of questions in anticipation that they can all be addressed during the visit. But the reality is that that it may not be possible. My suggestion is to be receptive to scheduling another visit during which the unaddressed items on your list can receive their full attention instead of trying to do them justice in five minutes or less.
- 2) Bring all medications with you to the visit, including those prescribed by an outside provider, or bring a detailed list with dosages of all of your medications including any inhalers and insulin.
- 3) Be on time. A patient may show up 20 minutes late for their appointment and still be



Dr. Ron Shaw visits with a patient at the CPN Health Clinic

seen, but the duration of the appointment may be curtailed to remain on schedule. If more than 20 minutes late, a patient may be asked to reschedule.

- 4) If you are diabetic, please bring in a log of your home blood sugar values or have your glucose meter downloaded by the diabetes program staff who are located in the CPN Wellness Center.

- 5) Ask for your printed health summary as you check out at the appointment desk. It includes your current medications, lab test results and list of your diagnoses for you to take home.

We at the CPN clinic are pleased to be your health care providers. Help us help you by being prepared.

Edward Albert Kennedy of the Lafromboise Family is seeking to fill family history gaps ahead of the 2013 Family Festival. If you wish to help, contact him at specialeno1@hotmail.com



SHARE

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Please vote for
Eva Marie Carney/*Ojindiskwe*
District 2 Legislator



Commitment to continue to build community through culture, education, traditions and communication.

Paid for by Bob/Shaweno and Karen Richey (Laframboise and Hardin) District 2.

Hownikan

Pecan farm another recent startup of CPN commercial enterprises

In the areas surrounding the Citizen Potawatomi Nation headquarters, the abundance of pecan trees is hard to miss.

Like many of the commercial enterprises started by the tribe over the course of the last decade, CPN's Pecan Farm began as a suggestion from Chairman John Barrett in 2007. Tribal member and longtime CPN employee William Everett took over operations in 2009. Everett, a descendant of the Tescier family, has worked for the tribe for 19 years, and currently serves as maintenance director.

"My job is a little more unique in that it's free flowing. Every day I have to go out and have a look at our property to decide what our guys are going to take care of," said Everett. "The interesting thing here compared to the newer businesses like the Grand Casino and Ball Fields complex is that I'm responsible for trees that are more than a hundred years old in many cases."

By late 2008, pecan production was underway. Despite some obstacles, like battling the ongoing drought, the farm has been a success so far, producing around 12,000 pounds of pecan annually.

The farm currently boasts around 300 harvestable trees on 60 acres of tribal land. The majority of the trees are native to Oklahoma. CPN-owned pecan trees are situated in groves as opposed to manmade orchards, and can be found throughout tribal property, like the pecan farm and FireLake Golf Course. The average age for a tree to be harvestable is from 5-7 years, but their yields aren't significant enough to turn a profit until they are a matured 12-15 years.

Despite the assumption that work on the pecan farm is a slow paced job, Everett and Pecan Farm Manager Blaine Littleton have year-round duties to make sure the operation maintains its profitability. Littleton, who is currently enrolled in Oklahoma State University's Pecan Management Course, oversees a staff of two full time workers who clear undergrowth from the groves and monitor for insect and bacterial infestations in the trees. In the event that an infestation occurs, the team must spray and monitor the trees to make sure a reoccurrence doesn't take place.

"Aside from our normal day to day monitoring and work, one of our main concerns is countering crows and squirrels," said Littleton. "One squirrel can carry off 50 pounds of pecans per year on average."

Currently, the pecans produced at the farm are cleaned, packaged and presented to CPN members and sold at the tribal owned grocery stores. While the nuts have long been a staple of American dietary culture, emerging markets overseas, especially China, have begun to import pecans in increasing numbers.

As domestic demand looks likely to remain steady and overseas demand rises, the work of the pecan farm is only going to become more important to the tribe's economic interests.



(Above) A view from the pecan grove looking West towards Harrison Ave. (Below) Pecan farm Manager Blaine Littleton pulls a pecan sapling from the CPN Eagle Aviary grounds to be replanted in the new orchard.



Trail of Death caravan to travel Sept. 23-28

By Shirley Willard, Fulton County Historian, Rochester, Indiana

The 6th Trail of Death Commemorative Caravan for the 175th anniversary of the 1838 Trail of Death will be Sept. 23-18, 2013, immediately following the Trail of Courage Living History Festival Sept. 21-22. The Potawatomi Indians were rounded up and marched at gunpoint down Rochester's Main Street Sept. 5, 1838. So many died, it became known as the Trail of Death. This was the same time as the forced removal of the Cherokees, known as the Trail of Tears, from the Smoky Mountains to Oklahoma. Nearly every tribe suffered a forced removal. This caravan focuses on the Potawatomi but is a memorial to all the removals and is a spiritual journey.

Every five years a Trail of Death Commemorative Caravan is organized to retrace the original 1838 route from Indiana to Kansas. It is 660 miles and crosses 26 counties in Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, and Kansas. The first caravan was in 1988 for the 150th anniversary of the 1838 removal. George Godfrey, a Citizen Potawatomi, and Shirley Willard, Fulton County Historian, have been partners in organizing and leading the caravan of cars, trucks and campers. When the price of gasoline got too high to make traveling with RVs and campers, they switched to cars, staying in motels at night.

Starting from Chief Menominee monument south of Plymouth, the Trail of Death route follows the Michigan Road through Argos, Rochester and Logansport. The group will be hosted to



George Godfrey and Shirley Willard speaking at the Menominee memorial

lunch at the Cass County Museum, which is located in Dr. Jerolaman's house. He was the doctor on the Trail of Death. They will spend the first night in Lafayette, and visit with Purdue's Native American Center and the

Great Lakes Native American Cultural Center.

Over 80 historical markers designate the Trail of Death campsites every 15 to 20 miles. All have been erected by volunteers, including 30

Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, 4-H, historical societies, individuals, and Potawatomi families. Also the Trail of Death has been marked across Indiana and Kansas with Potawatomi Trail highway signs. Efforts to mark the trail

with highway signs continue in Illinois and Missouri.

New Potawatomi Trail of Death Regional Historic Trail highway signs will be dedicated at Danville and Monticello, Illinois; from Brunswick to DeWitt, Missouri; and from Kansas state line to Sugar Creek Mission in Linn County, Kansas.

The Trail of Death route takes the caravan through Danville, Springfield, Jacksonville, Exeter and Quincy. It crossed Missouri on Old 24 through Palmyra, Paris, Moberly, Huntsville, Keytesville, Independence, and Grand View. A new historical marker will be dedicated this year at Spring Hill, Kansas. The trail winds down at Paola, Osawatomie and Sugar Creek Mission. The former mission is now the St. Philippine Duchesne Memorial Park, honoring St. Philippine who was canonized in 1988, the first female saint west of the Mississippi River. She was an elderly missionary to the Potawatomi in 1841 and was given the name of She Who Prays Always.

Another new historical marker is at Trading Post, Kansas, and will be dedicated by the caravan members the last evening of their trip. They will spend the night in a motel in Osawatomie, Kansas, and bid farewell to all Sunday morning Sept. 29, each person heading for home.

For more information and a registration form, see www.potawatomi-tda.org. Or contact Shirley Willard at 574-223-2352 or wwillard@rtcol.com



GOVERNMENT

Demetrius Gises (May 2013)

People of the Fire

Election races set for Legislative Districts

Citizen Potawatomi Nation voters will vote for Legislators in District 2 and in District 4 on June 29, 2013.

Tribal members living in the

southeast will choose between incumbent Eva Marie Carney and challenger Anthony Cole for District 2's legislative seat. Tribal members in District 4 of Kansas will choose between

incumbent Theresa Adame and Jon E. Boursaw.

A Ballot Request Period will begin on March 1, 2013 and end on June 9, 2013. There

will be in-person voting from 7 a.m. until 2 p.m. on June 29, 2013 at the courtroom in the CPN administration building, 1601 S. Gordon Cooper Dr., Shawnee, OK 74801.

Learn more about each of the candidates in the District 2 and District 4 race in this article and in the June Hownikan.

Eva Marie Carney



The incumbent in the District 2 race against Anthony Cole of New Orleans, Eva Marie Carney is technically running in her third CPN legislative election. She won the first election against four

opponents, including Cole, and was unopposed the next.

“When do you have the privilege to become an elected official for your tribe, in a newly created government structure? That is a unique opportunity! It’s why I decided to run in the first place – to help build the new government,” said Carney.

The long time Washington D.C. based securities defense lawyer initially became interested in governing following a position on Capitol Hill and serving as the first clerk for Superior Court Judge Robert I. Richter.

Carney has more than two decades of government service in the judicial, legislative and executive branches, including a ten year stint in the general counsel’s office of the Securities and Exchange

Commission. She juggles her time as a full time partner at D.C. law firm Richards Kibbe & Orbe LLP with her responsibilities as a CPN legislator for District 2, which spans 13 states and the District of Columbia. Mirroring the sentiments of other legislators outside Oklahoma, Carney said the greatest issue she faces is in solidifying a sense of community and “home” amongst the citizens of her large district.

On her goals if reelected, Carney says “I want to continue building a cohesive community in District 2. Seeing constituents connect and meet up together without my prompting has been one of the things I am very proud to have helped bring about during my time as their legislator.”

She currently connects with the district’s citizens through

District 2 Candidates

from Kansas.

The Stanford Law School graduate hadn’t been to Oklahoma prior to her original election to the legislature in 2008, but has since returned often to attend to government matters and the Family Reunion Festivals.

Carney lives in Arlington, Virginia (right outside Washington D.C.) with her husband Alan Cohen. She can be reached toll free at 1-866-961-6988. Her email is ecarney@potawatomi.org and information and photos of her tribal and district activities can be found at www.evamariecarney.com.

Anthony Cole



Seeking to pick up where he left off in the 2008 electoral contest against Eva Marie Carney, New Orleans’ Anthony Cole is once again running for the District 2 seat in the Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s Legislature.

Cole is the owner of New Orleans-based Blutique, a firm specializing in software application development for the casino industry. He has been a resident of Louisiana since 1998 following a four year stint in the Marine Corps.

Born in Durant, Okla. and raised in the nearby town of Madill, Cole is a descendant of the Yott family on his mother’s side. He is President of the

Kiwanis Club of St. Bernard Parish, an organization whose volunteers offer their time and services to different issues affecting their communities. His focus on community service was instilled at a young age when a family member’s medical expenses threatened to wipe out his parent’s finances.

“I’m a big believer in the idea that you should give back what you take,” said Cole. “Growing up, the tribe helped my family financially and gave me jobs during the summer to help make ends meet. Since the tribe gave me those opportunities when I was younger, I feel that serving in the legislature is my way of

giving back.”

While supportive of the tribe’s current direction, Cole is again seeking the opportunity to sit in the CPN legislature in order to expand the focus of legislators’ roles as more than just community representatives.

According to Cole, “Legislators obviously have to be tribal representatives, but I’d like to see that also mean we advance the cultural knowledge of our constituents. A lot of Potawatomis, myself included, don’t know a lot about our culture, and as a legislator I’d like to expand our responsibilities in promoting that.”

Should he win the election, Cole will also seek to develop health coverage for Potawatomis in the Nation’s districts who have no immediate medical care facilities.

“I will push for improving our medical coverage for those outside of Oklahoma. Something as simple as preventative health care screenings for high blood pressure, diabetes and other ailments that can be conducted at district meetings is one way of accomplishing this. My goal is to have one annual test per member,” noted Cole.

District 4 Candidates

Theresa Adame



In a re-run of the 2009 contest for District 4, incumbent Theresa Adame will face challenger Jon Boursaw for the legislative seat. The previous contest between the two Topeka residents was decided by a vote total of 121-107.

Adame is a descendant of the Navarre family on her father’s side whose family hails from the Rossville area, a place that is currently home to CPN Elderly Housing and a Community Center. An administrator for Topeka-based Capital Orthopedic Center, Adame first became interested in tribal politics because of her father, Raymond Martin, who she

would accompany to tribal meetings.

“For years I’d taken him to regional meetings, and my participation in those developed my love for the family and tribe at a young age,” said Adame. “So when the legislative opening came about after the new Constitution was passed, he made the announcement for me that I was running.”

While each legislative district has its own unique challenges, one of the most prevalent for CPN members in Kansas is being confused with the Prairie Band Potawatomi, who have a substantial organization there.

“Growing up here in Kansas,

we didn’t have that strong sense of community as there is in Oklahoma or even compared to the Prairie Band. I wanted to develop those connections as a tribe like they had in Oklahoma. We are now interacting as a group through social media and our gatherings,” noted Adame.

In addition to deepening the community ties for CPN members in the district, Adame cited the Senior Care Network as another accomplishment during her time in office.

“It’s also something I’m proud of. It started as a grant just two years ago,” said Adame, “but has since been funded by the tribe. The program oversees

the health and well-being of approximately 125 CPN members around the Topeka and Rossville areas, and it’s been successful so far.”

Entering this election, the incumbent is happy to see the tribal electoral process move forward but is equally excited to retain her seat.

According to Adame, “My daughter told someone once, ‘Everyone is either a follower or a leader. My mother is not a follower.’ I think that is a pretty good explanation as to why I’m running again.”

Jon Boursaw



In District 4, Jon Boursaw is challenging incumbent Theresa Adame for the legislative seat in one of this year’s contested elections. Boursaw and Adame both ran against one another in the September 2009 election for the seat.

The Air Force veteran and Kansas native is a descendant of the Bourassa and Ogee families. An aficionado of tribal history, Boursaw gives presentations each year to participants of the PLP Student Program on the path of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation from pre-European times to its status today.

“As a tribal member,” commented Boursaw, “my

job is to explain who we are, where we came from and how we got to where we are to today. I have done that by giving numerous presentations to historical societies, civic organizations, and university classes and groups. That is something I’m very proud of.”

Boursaw believes his experience in the professional and military worlds can benefit those living District 4.

“I’ve demonstrated proven leadership as a manager in public and private service,” said Boursaw. “I think that my duty as a legislator would be to ensure that the benefits of tribal membership are available for our constituents in a timely manner.”

The former Air Force man spent 24 years in uniform before retiring as a colonel. He spent 13 years working in major corporations in addition to serving six years as the Executive Director for the Prairie Band Potawatomi in Kansas. His most recent position was during his two and a half years as the Director of the CPN Cultural Heritage Center.

“My time at the Cultural Heritage Center gave me a totally different appreciation of tribal history on how we have persevered and endured through all of the bad times as a tribe,” said Boursaw. “I’m very enthusiastic about what the tribal leadership has done in the last several years and

would like to be part of that going into the future.”

On what he’d like to do should he win the election, Boursaw said that he’d “like to expand on how we in Kansas interact with our tribal members outside of the Topeka area. I want those members in other parts of the state to have the same connectivity that we have here.”

Hownikan

Sacramento Regional Meeting



Sue Meyer and Jerry Meyer from the Peltier Family



Michael Bourbonnais and Rande Payne



Lois and Donald Meidinger



Heather Watkins Koolhof and Gary Koolhof



Kathy and Ashley Liguori



Wisest--Mary Wyle



Youngest--Sam McAlister



Travelled Farthest--Mike Forster



Bob Young and Ms. Capps. Bob donated \$500 to scholarships

Scottsdale, Ariz. Regional Meeting



Chairman Barret and Charles Esch



Jim and Virginia Rozac



Gene Lambert and Jason Greenwalt



Vice Chairman Caps with Charles and Joy Esch



Donna Lewis -- Wisest



Cherry Rouse--Traveled Farthest



Chairman Barrett with Cole and Cooper Schemel

Roy and Ramona Melot with friends



Gene Lambert speaks with a constituent

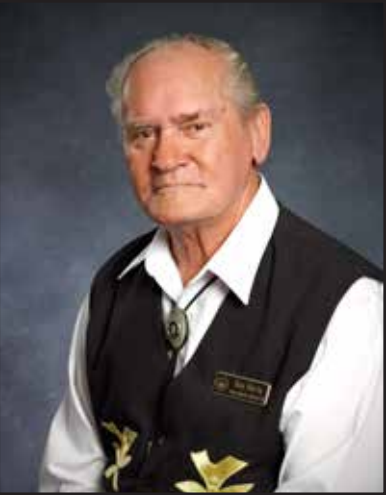


Larry and Candice Watson

Hownikan

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District 1 - Roy Slavin



Bozho Nikan

The first day of spring arrived March 20 here in Kansas

City, the first snow of spring arrived March 22. After last year’s mild winter I began to think Al Gore might be on to something with his talk of global warming. Now I’m convinced we may need to rethink that position.

I have been doing a slow burn the last few days –the cause- my wife recently answered the phone and it was a woman doing a survey of T.V. programming and what we watched. She assured my wife it would only take two minutes. She asked our race off a list asking if we were Caucasian , Spanish American, Spanish, Black or

other. My wife told her we were Native American, but the woman said that couldn’t accept that designation. It had to be those classifications she had mentioned or just be listed as “Other”. Fortunately for her she was talking to my wife and not me.

My ire level has been somewhat high these last few days as a result of my recent reading of “The French and Indian wars” by Walter R. Borneman. This, after reading “Chief Joseph” and “ Crazy Horse “ by Bill Dugan. Need I say more?

At this time I am looking

forward to the District 1 regional meeting this year. The first is scheduled for April 20 at “Chateau on the Lake” in Branson, Mo. This is a beautiful location for meetings and we have several namings scheduled after the meeting. The next will be May 4 at the Monaco Hotel at 2 North Charles St. , Baltimore, Md.

The last scheduled meeting, so far, will be May 18 at Sheraton Overland Park, 6100 College Blvd., Overland Park, Kan. These events and other important information can be found on the CPN web site www.potawatomi.org.

I will end this article as always with a plea for your contact information. If you do not receive e-mails or regular mail from me regarding CPN events, it is because I do not have your contact information.

Please send to me at rslavin@potawatomi.org or rjslavin@gmail.com or 6730 Tower Drive, Kansas City, Mo. 64151 or call toll free 1-888-741-5767.

Megwetch

Netagtege (always planting)

District 2 - Eva Marie Carney



Bozho nikan/Hello friends,

Congressional Support for Native Rights. Native peoples and Native rights are in the news and on folks’ minds. For instance, on the legislative front, American Indian women who are assaulted on reservations by non-Indians just gained the protection of tribal courts, which previously did not have jurisdiction over assailants who do not live on tribal land.That is a big deal and ends a long fought battle in the war to end the epidemic of violence against Native women. In reauthorizing and expanding the Violence Against Women Act, the U.S. Congress plugged the serious jurisdictional gap in Indian Country that left Native women without that protection and therefore without equal access to justice. The failure of our existing system is appalling -- 34 percent of American Indian and Alaska Native women will be raped in their lifetimes; 39 percent will be subjected to domestic violence in their lifetimes; and on some reservations, Native women are murdered at more than ten times the national average. (These statistics and related material comes from the website of

the National Task Force to End Sexual and Domestic Violence.) Hopefully this change in the law will make an immediate difference by deterring would-be abusers.

There is also a bill in its early stages, introduced in late March (H.R. 1278) by Rep. Eni Faleomavaega (D-American Samoa) and nine co-sponsors, seeking to ban the trademarking of the term “redskins” and other racist language against Native Americans. The bill, the Non-Disparagement of Native American Persons or Peoples in Trademark Registration Act of 2013, if passed, would strip the Washington D.C. football team of its trademarked name and end its exclusive use of the “redskin” logo on sweatshirts, t-shirts, hats, coffee mugs, and the like. Indian Country Today Media Network.com, from which the information about the bill in this column is drawn, reports that a briefing paper prepared in support of the bill lists close to a dozen dictionaries that define the term as disparaging and offensive, and more than a dozen schools and universities that have dropped the name in recent years. It also reminds legislators that in 2005 the NCAA banned the use of Native Indian names, logos and mascots by colleges and universities during its championship tournaments. I will keep you updated on the progress of the bill – if any – through the House. The Washington Post just reminded its readership that “There is no guarantee that the bill will even get a committee hearing in the House, or reach a vote.” I’d be interested in hearing your

views on these issues if you are willing to share them.

Upcoming Meetings and Events. I hope to see you in Baltimore, Md. during the Tribal Executive-hosted meeting at the Hotel Monaco downtown on Saturday, May 4, 2013; on Saturday, June 15, for a Tour and Lunch I am hosting at the Embassy of the National Congress of American Indians in Washington, D.C., in Shawnee, Okla. for the Family Reunion Festival which starts Friday, June 28, 2013; at the Gathering of Nations hosted by the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians, August 4-11, 2013, in Dowagiac, Mich.; or in Suitland, Md., on Friday, September 27, 2013 for our next Tour of the Potawatomi Items in the Archives of the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian. Or who knows – fate and serendipity being what it is, we could meet up on the streets of Manhattan, or in McLean, Va., or somewhere more or less exotic, or even virtually via your online outreach via

email or a Facebook message. Where-ever it may be, I look forward to it and to hearing how being a Potawatomi makes a difference in your world view.

Extended Contest Deadline – But Act Fast! To date, the latest District 2 contest is a bust. With only a few recipes in my inbox, I am extending the contest for another month. A reminder of the rules: I am looking for great (and healthful, if possible) family recipes that I can compile into a Potawatomi-flavored cookbook if I get enough entries. Contest incentives are that everyone who submits an entry (one per person, please) will receive a copy of the cookbook (IF I have enough entries to merit a cookbook!), and there will be a drawing from all CPN District 2 entries for a special prize, selected at random from all District 2 entries. Recognition on my website and in the HowNiKān will follow, too. You don’t have to live in District 2 to enter, but to win the special prize you do need to be in

District 2. Please accompany the recipe with information on its source and specify any connection the recipe has to your Potawatomi heritage. Please also be sure to include your "snail mail" address so I can mail you a copy of any cookbook I produce. The extended contest deadline is **May 15**, and I will announce the prize winner and print some of my favorites in the **June** column. If you are not sure about which 13 states make up District 2, log onto my website, www.evamariecarney.com, and click on “Our District” – the states outlined in black are District 2 states! You can send the recipe by email attachment or in the regular U.S. mail.

Request for Your Vote, District 2, and for Your Thoughts. I can only continue my Legislative work and service to you with the votes of citizens in District 2 and therefore I am asking for your vote in the upcoming election. Thank you for your consideration of this personal request for your vote and for exercising your right as a CPN citizen to vote for your elected officials. Please contact me to share your thoughts and for any assistance you might need.

Migwetch/thank you for the honor of representing you.

Legislator Eva Marie Carney/Ojindiskwe (Bluebirdwoman)

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March 2012 Archives Tour participants posing with some of the Potawatomi items in the Smithsonian collection, including beautifully-crafted household objects, textiles, drums, pipes, and clothing and beadwork items. Potawatomis from N.Y, Pa., Del., N.C., Md., Washington D.C., Va., Ill. and Mo. were part of the tour.]

District 3 - Robert Whistler



Bozho Nikanek (Hello friends)

For the last few months my articles have focused on scholarships. In concert with getting an education is having the desire and dedication to succeed.

In addition to being your District 3 representative, I own a business and sell logo merchandise in the promotional products industry. In this industry we have an association called PPAI, and we attend industry functions to review new products and visit with our vendors. In March, I attended the SAGE show and they invited Barbara Corcoran as their guest motivational speaker.

Her message is very appropriate and blends in nicely with my prior articles on scholarships and the attitude and actions that are necessary to succeed. So here is a paraphrase of her presentation:

1. Be great at failure! In other words, don't be afraid to try new things to find out what won't work so you can determine what does work. Set backs and failures taught her what she is good at doing!

2. Perception creates reality. It may not be true, but if it looks true then it is believed to be true. For example, dressing like you have money makes others think that you do have a lot of money.

3. Everybody wants what everybody wants. Look at the lines that form when a new product like the iPad by Apple is introduced. Conversely when it goes out of vogue, it has no demand.

4. Expand before you are ready. When in business, don't wait until you are too comfortable to grow. The competition may move faster and take the edge that could

have been yours.

5. There are two kinds of people. Expanders and containers. You need to be the prior, not the latter, if you are going to excel. The expanders will take calculated risks which is what it takes to be the best!

6. Shoot the dogs early. Look back at number three. If it is old or not working it is not in demand and it is time to drop or eliminate whatever it is.

7. Fun is good in business. Find ways to make your business fun. When people are having fun, the business is exciting and the mood is positive, which makes it easier to overcome challenges.

8. Bad times are the best times to move ahead. All you need to is look at the stock market to confirm this. Recently the AMR Corporation filed for bankruptcy to reorganize. US Airways was on the sidelines offering to merge. AMR was not going to go out of business. Their stock dropped to a low of around \$0.35. Currently that stock selling for close to \$4.00. With the housing market in many cities in a downward cycle, this

would be a good time to invest in property, especially since interest rates are also at a nice low.

9. You have the right to be here. Barbara is saying don't let the opposition scare you off, even if they are much larger than you. When you have something good, go for it!

For any of you that are not familiar with Barbara Corcoran, she is one of the members of the very rich, independent investors on the T.V. show "Shark Tank" and previously sold one business for over \$66 million. Her message to us, hopefully, will benefit many of you looking for inspiration to succeed.

In closing this month, I look forward to seeing many of you next month at Family Festival the last weekend in June. I am deeply honored in being your representative and am here to serve you. So if you have any questions regarding the Nation, please contact me.

Bama mine (later)

Bob Whistler/Bmashi

Citizen Potawatomi Nation

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Legislative Columns

District 4 - Theresa Adame



Bozho

The citizens of Kansas have two great opportunities to attend a Tribal Area Meeting for District 4. I have always responded to the individual needs of citizens in all of Kansas, but at these two locations will be the first opportunity in several years that we will hold meetings in Overland Park and Wichita, Kan.

The first will be Saturday May 18 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Sheraton in Overland Park Kan. The second will be the following day, Sunday May19 from 12-5 p.m. at the Marriott in Wichita. By now you should have received your notice for these events in the mail.

I realize that many of you may be tired of hearing this information since you received an e-mail, postcard and now this article. However, I cannot

emphasize how important it is to attend. These new locations make for a perfect opportunity for first time attendees to enjoy a great lunch, meet your tribal representative and the Executive Branch who will be there in attendance. The presentation will include an update of benefits, enterprises and tribal report.

Also, by now you should have received your ballot request in the mail. It has been my privilege to represent you

and with your support look forward to continue serving your needs.

Theresa Adame

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District 5 - Gene Lambert



Greetings to everyone here in District 5 of the great Citizen Potawatomi Nation!

There are authors, award

winning dancers, artists of every medium and this isn't a recent observation. It has been going on since the beginning of our time.

I say great because we are! You are!

We have come a long way and grown by leaps and bounds. It happens one by one. We have a long way to go and we will succeed through education, patience, endurance, and the grace of God!

I recently had the opportunity to attend an employment and career fair here in Arizona and every tribe was represented.

As we all know it is the answer to our survival. Interestingly enough the key note speakers were from Potawatomi tribes.

There are scholarships available for tribal members and that is coming up soon. So set your personal sights on a goal and apply. As I have said before, never too young or too old to educate yourself in areas that interest you. My mother was 85 and going back to college!

Remember each and every one of us is a piece of the Potawatomi Peace!

The membership talents are so magnificent in the present enrollment of 30,000. We

have authors, award winning dancers, skilled educators, historians, inventors and artists of every medium.

Our Chairman, John Barrett, and Vice Chairman Linda Capps are at the very top. Just notice what is going on in Shawnee and you can witness for yourself. A hotel, casinos, bowling, golf courses, water companies, restaurants, printing, housing development, medical, dental, daycare, giftshop, convenience stores, gas stations are just a few of the innovative and massive undertakings we have achieved. It just keeps growing. Grow with us.

The Army has an

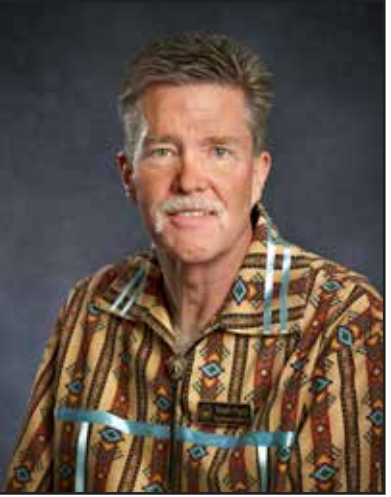
advertisement, "Be All You Can Be", join the Army.

Education here is the real answer. I think the idea is to grow, learn, achieve. You can because you are Potawatomi. You have opportunities now that many do not. Take advantage of the gifts God gave you.

The saying is, "You will know by the wanting of the heart," there is another half, "and by the acceptance of the masses."

What is your gift? If you don't know, ask!

District 6 - Rande Payne



Bozho Nikan,

Spring is the season of new beginnings, the start of another life cycle. It's the time of year that brought hope to our ancestors. Hope for a successful hunting and fishing season that would provide fresh and plentiful food and relief from the cold and often the hunger that came with the winter season. Spring also meant freedom to travel and move about and the opportunity to plant new crops for food supply. Spring was also the remedy for cabin fever, with conditions that were much more favorable for dancing, singing, ceremonies, living life and being happy.

Winter's harsh and frigid grip would loosen and optimism would be ushered in with the warmth and blossoming of spring! Knowing, appreciating and honoring the lives of our ancestors give us insight into who we are today. Spring has always been my favorite time of year and until recently I really couldn't tell you why. Now I know.

As part of the naming ceremony for District 6 member Sharon Aalto Sparks (Nimedikwe - Dancing Woman) last month, I was able to present Sharon with an eagle feather. Not just any feather, but an eagle feather from our very own aviary. I received the feather from Jennifer Randell as part of the dedication ceremony that took place during Family Festival last year. Jennifer is the caretaker for the eagles we've been entrusted with at our aviary. Jennifer is a wonderful person and has such a passion for her work. I was honored to name Sharon (Nimedikwe) and especially the presentation of this very special and sacred feather. More about eagle feathers next month...

Quickly I would just like to

say what a great time I had at the District 7 Gathering in Sacramento in March. Most of my family resides in that District and I've developed friendships with some of the members in that District as well. As always, I greatly enjoyed the time with all the folks that made the trip out from Okla. I had the opportunity to meet Jennifer Hardesty our new Director of Public Information. I think Jennifer is doing a fantastic job with the Hownikan and the website. The time together always goes way too fast and leaves me looking forward to the next gathering.

Coming up...that's right, Family Reunion Festival! I do hope you are able to go this year. As you know, each year a group of six to eight founding families are honored. This means a number of things. Each founding family has a section of tables reserved in the round house. The tables provide an easily accessible and special place to sit down to eat and visit with other family members. Honored families are also announced at Grand Entry. The drum honors each family in the dance arena as they join the dance circle.

But most importantly, it offers opportunity for honored family members to tell their stories and have them recorded for posterity. So please, if your founding family is being honored and you plan on going, I encourage you to be prepared. Try to take as many old and current family photos that you would like to share and think about those conversations or activities you might want to share as well. Each founding family will have an opportunity to meet with CPN personnel to record your family history. Families being honored at the 2013 festival are the Johnson, Lafromboise, LaReau, LeClaire, Melott, Rhodd, Tescier, Weld and Young families.

In closing, I would like to encourage our veterans to take the time to be recognized for their service to our country. Our ancestors held our warriors in high regard and we carry on that tradition today. Family Reunion Festival would be a great time to have your picture taken to be displayed at the Cultural Heritage Center. It would also be a great opportunity to talk about your military service so that it can be recorded and

shared with the generations to come. If you are an honorably discharged CPN veteran, please allow us to honor you and your family in this way.

Lastly, know who you are. Be confident in who you are. Honor your ancestors and be who you are by keeping our traditions and culture alive. Do not shy away from who you are because of those who tell you that you are not. You are Nishnabe! You are Potawatomi!

"The greatest compliment you can pay the Creator is the living out and optimization of our uniqueness." – Fred Smith.

Migwetch!

Bama pi,

Rande K. Payne / Mnedo Gabo

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District 12 - Paul Schmidlkefer



Bozho Nikan,

Sometimes we get caught up in what is going on around us and forget to slow down and

enjoy life. Over the last 14 months my wife and I bought and moved to a new home in Shawnee, fixed up our old house to sell, and decided we like living in the country and moved back. There wasn't much time to do anything other than move and work on the old house during these 14 months. We just about completely renovated our old house from top to bottom. There's still a few things hanging out there to be done but we moved back and are now finishing up. Add on top of that all the other things we have been involved in and there wasn't to many minutes to have fun.

One thing I have consistently done over that period of time was go bowling with my oldest grandson every Wednesday evening at Firelake Bowling. I never picked the game up before this so it has been a learning experience for me and the grandson. He is quite athletic and enjoys just about any sport. When we first began I could hold my own with him. But over the last 3 or 4 months he has started to excel at it. Neither one of us are looking at going professional anytime soon, that I am reasonable assure of as far as I am concerned anyway. But I do enjoy the game now. I've bought my own bowling ball and shoes, plus managed to

get one of those fancy bags on wheels to haul it around in.

Mostly I mentioning this to remind everyone to slow down and enjoy their family. And I guess a shameless plug for our wonderful bowling alley. If you haven't been out and bowled I suggest you give it a try. The staff is very helpful. I promise you if they can help me then they can help anyone. While you're there you might check out the Subway or San Remos pizza. It makes for a fun evening with your family or friends. Maybe show up on a Wednesday evening and enjoy the show I put on trying to keep up with my grandson. I'm sure there are regulars

there who get a few chuckles out of watching my attempt to throw my ball without ending up in the gutter. Also the weather has started warming up and the days are getting longer again so maybe check out Firelake Putt-Putt. Everybody enjoys and spirited game of putt-putt.

As always it is a pleasure and an honor to serve our great nation. I thank you for this privilege.

Bama pi,
Paul Schmidlkofer

Contact your Legislator! CPN Legislators often email and mail important information about events in their districts. Make sure you aren't missing out on important communication! Contact your legislator today! Legislative information, including maps and contact information, is available at <http://www.potawatomi.org/government/legislature>

District 7 - Mark Johnson



Bozho,

Every once in a while, events unfold to make you stop and ponder the important things in life. Like your family, your friends, your health, maybe your job. We all have things that are certain to us and we hold them near and dear to our hearts, for me it is family and my family heritage. When I am uncertain of where I am going next, I am able to look back at where I have been or where my family has been and suddenly the path before me becomes much clearer. I cannot imagine what I would do if I didn't have that to fall back on. Could you? Please stay with me on a little history lesson.

The Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) was enacted in November 1978 because of the high removal rate of Indian children from their traditional homes and essentially from Indian culture as a whole. Before enactment, as many as 25-35 percent of all Indian children were being removed from their Indian homes and placed in non-Indian homes,

with presumably the absence of Indian culture. Congress’s overriding purpose in passing the ICWA was to protect Indian culture and tribal integrity from the unnecessary removal of Indian children by state and federal agencies. Congress reasoned that “there is no resource that is more vital to the continued existence and integrity of Indian tribes than their children.” The ICWA gives important jurisdictional powers to Indian tribes in order to preserve the Indian culture. Tribal courts hold either exclusive jurisdiction or concurrent jurisdiction dependent on several factors.

I was contacted in early March by a articulate young woman who I will call Karen. She was "looking for her truth". Born in early 1978 prior to the enactment of the ICWA, she was placed for adoption in San Jose, Calif. Her birth paperwork lists her grandfather as a "Full Blood Potawatomi." I cannot think of a better way to help Karen, than to let her speak to your heart. I would love to help her find the truth she is seeking. I will keep any contact from you in the strictest confidence and I have held back some information to ensure we make a positive identification. Now, here is Karen:

“Art, music and language have been my strengths since I was young. I have a strong connection with nature and animals and am happiest when hiking and traveling. I am a very calm, intuitive person and read people well. I am positive, determined and believe in creative self expression. I am a truth seeker



Karen

and looking to reach my full potential in life.

I have always wanted to find my true family and know my real name. Ever since I was little I felt that I was part of something different and special, obviously unique and stood out from my adopted family. I can remember being told I was adopted when I was about five years old. My adopted parents were very open about it, they took me to powwows, taught me about Indian heritage, and even informed me to check the “Native American” box on standardized tests in school. Early on at the powwows, I remember being told that the people there were my true relatives. The mystery began in my mind as a child.

Although I am naturally confident and had a great childhood, I've always felt there was a missing piece that would otherwise explain the whole. I do feel things happen for a reason and moving closer to where I was born was no coincidence. I also have been more aware of spiritual signs, and truth is, since I have been living in Monterey this past year something has been trying to get my attention. I decided to listen and realized I wanted to pursue my identity in a serious way. Things have fallen into place the more I seek. For the first time, people like you are helping me. I think for a reason.

With my true name, I would like to intimately know my background and heritage. I think my soul would feel

complete and it would explain a lot. I don't feel it's necessary to meet my biological parents, and I am respectful of the difficult decision that they made, however if I could, I would write them a letter. If they were into the idea, I'd love to meet them, but I would not be aggressive. The person I would love to meet first, is my grandfather. I can honestly say that if I found my real last name, I would legally change it and add it as a middle name so I would be easier to find.”

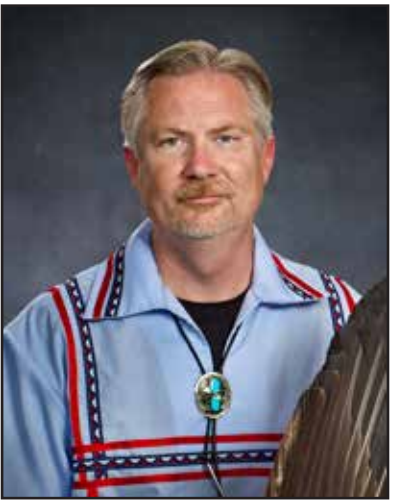
- Karen

Once again, I would like to say what an honor it is to serve you as your District 7 representative. As always give me a call and I will be happy to work with you on any questions you may have, or provide you with additional information you may need to access tribal benefits that you are entitled to. Please also take the time to give me a call or send me an email with your contact information so that I can keep you informed of the happenings within the Nation and District.

Migwetch,

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District 8 - Dave Carney



Bozho,

I spoke with an elderly member of the phone the other day about a letter she had received about her allotment back on the old reservation land in Oklahoma. She was trying to make sense of the letter and the sum offered for her “Oklahoma acreage”. This is not the first talk like this that I have had, nor will it be the last. But it inspired me to write about the allotments, how they came to be, what people’s hopes and dreams are and what the reality is.

In some ways, it is the allotments that defined us as Citizen Potawatomi. Several tribes use the allotment records as their base line for who is a tribal member. If you can prove descendency from an allottee, then you may

qualify for application to the tribal rolls.

We all know about the 1838 “Trail of Death” – when 875 members of our “band” of Potawatomi were forcibly removed from modern day Indiana to share a reservation with the Prairie Band in Kansas. 45 died along the way. It was there, in 1861, that the US government offered allotments of individual land to individual Indians as a way to turn our ancestors into white farmers and break up the idea of communal ownership of land. Some of our ancestors signed treaties to take the land and U.S. citizenship, thus becoming Citizen Potawatomi. Well, it didn’t take long for many to lose their land in Kansas through deception and unfair dealings as well as the Indians’ ignorance of property taxes. On top of this, the railroads decided that they wanted this land—things went from bad to worse.

Shortly after the Civil War, in 1867, the leadership signed a treaty to sell what land was left in Kansas and purchase a reservation in Indian Country that would be theirs forever - free of white encroachment and the ever changing promises of the U.S. government. In the next five years or so, our ancestors started building a life for themselves as they had

been forced to do so many times before.

Enter the Dawes Act of 1887. The Act was named for its sponsor, Senator Henry Laurens Dawes of Mass. The objective of the Dawes Act was to stimulate assimilation of Indians into American society. Individual ownership of land was seen as an essential step. The act also provided that the government would purchase Indian land "excess" (land not allotted) and open it up for settlement by non-Indians. So the reservation that was not given to us, but was selected and paid for by us was now to be divided up. The Citizen Potawatomi would be again living surrounded by non-Indians.

Say that the individual allottee had 160 acres and had five children that inherited 20 percent each of the property. Now imagine that each one of those five had three kids, splitting the ownership of the 20percent ownership into three shares of 33 percent each and this split happens in 1920. Now fast forward four generations to 2013. How many folks own a fractional part of that allotment today? Literally hundreds! Should you want further complication, some owners willed their ownership to non-relatives, like the Catholic Church. End of history lesson.

Now to the phone call generated from a letter. Members across the country receive letters from the real estate department of the Nation asking them to sell their interest for the nominal rate of \$250.00. Because so many parcels of land are owned by so many people, it cannot be put to good use, or even really effectively maintained. The government of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s goal is to get a majority ownership in these allotments. The issue of gaming seems to arise every time CPN attempts to acquire land or place land into trust. The decision to make the investment to game on a particular parcel comes only after lengthy and costly study, and 99.9 percent of parcels are not suited for gaming. CPN has an aggressive program of land base expansion for cultural, industrial and commercial development purposes. On very few parcels acquired, is use of the parcel for gaming even a consideration.

Another point to be made is the value of the land. If a members lives in the waterfront property on either the east coast or the west coast, there is an assumption that an acre of land could sell for an excess of \$100,000. In truth, an acre of old reservation land in Pottawatomie County is worth about \$1,000.

The Nation has a talented staff who are expert at these land issues, the Real Estate Services Department. They are sensitive to Tribal members who want to hold on to their minority ownership for sentimental reasons and especially those who have childhood memories of living on the land. For those who have no such memory, I suggest that they take pride as a Tribal member, in what CPN will be able to do with management control of the property. Charles Meloy is the head of the department and he was kind enough to share some of his time answering questions for me about this topic. I hope this helps.

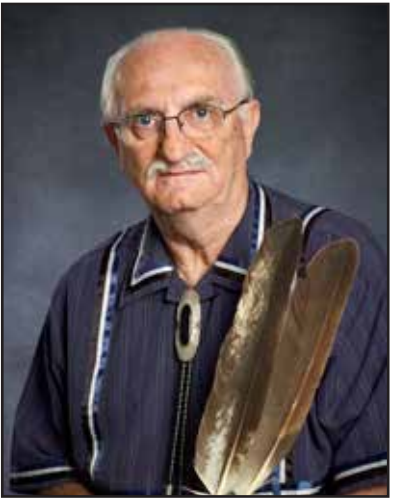
District 8 events are being planned in Oregon and eastern Washington this summer. I’ll be updating you all when things firm up.

Migwetch,

Dave Carney/Kagashi (Raven)

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District 9 - Paul Wesselhoft



Thank you, Charles Clark, for featuring my daughter, Holly Wesselhoft, in the April 2013 issue of the *Hownikan*.

Of course, my wife and I are very proud of our daughter. She was in the first Potawatomi Leadership Program; and enjoyed her experience and the many friends she meet.

After graduating high school, Holy was awarded a virtual full scholarship to Yale. She majored in Political Science. After Yale, she moved to New York City to work for Harry Winston Diamonds, then to DeBeers Diamonds Company, then to Meridian, a high-end electronics company.

Recently, Holly returned from Africa, where, for several months, she committed herself

to a humanitarian mission. Now, she is back in her adopted city of New York City, where she will be interviewing for a new job, and a new venture. So, yes, we are very proud of our daughter.

We also have a son, Justin Wesselhoft, of whom we are very proud. He lives in New Iberia, Louisiana. He graduated from Oklahoma Baptist University where he earned a B.B.A. Then he received his Master of Business Administration from Oklahoma City University where he studied International Finance in China for eighteen months. He works

for Schlumberger Limited, the world's leading oilfield Services Company.

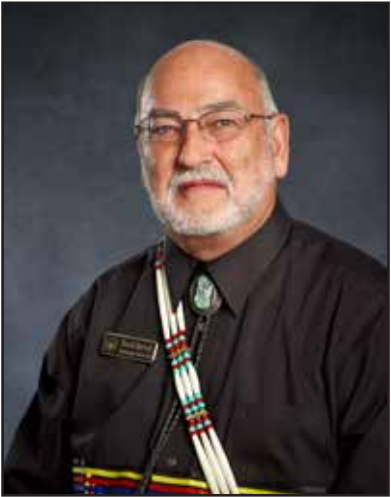
Although she is known to many in the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, our son is not. Unfortunately, I believe our son is representative of many of our youth, who for various reasons, choose not to be involved with our nation. We need to continue to reach out to our youth and demonstrate to them that our nation has a lot to offer, and we need their involvement and leadership.

It is my hope that one day, you will come to know our

son. And I hope our son, and your children, will come to know our nation and her great future!

Legislative Columns

District 10 - David Barrett



Bozho,

The differences between men and women. Why on Earth would I want to try to explain this? My wife gave me an article many years back with humorous comments about men and women. I have been making the joke about our 40+ years of marriage that in the first 10 years I considered myself the dominant person, then the next 20 years we were mutually compromising, while in the last 10 she learned all the tricks, bluffs and counter-offers (in other words she was in the drivers seat). The last two years it seems that my wife has taken all the good attributes of our marriage and propelled them to new boundaries. Before reading the article that my wife gave me, I want you to read another article written by Amber Hensley written June 16, 2009. Before going further, I want to say this is my opinion, so don't get too carried away with your thoughts. Look at this on the light side. The more politically correct individuals will cry foul at any mention of double standards or reinforced stereotypes in the division between men and women. The realists out there will simply nod, and even laugh where appropriate, since it's just plain truth in most cases that significant differences do exist between the sexes.

Amber writes *“The differences between women and men are not only well-documented, but frequently at the heart of jokes, anecdotes, and good-natured (and not so good-natured) ribbing. Experts*

have discovered that there are actually differences in the way women's and men's brains are structured and in the way they react to events and stimuli. So the next time your wife, boyfriend, or parent starts telling you how you should have done something differently, then refer back to these big differences between men's and women's brains.

Human Relationships: *Women tend to communicate more effectively than men, focusing on how to create a solution that works for the group, talking through issues, and utilizes non-verbal cues such as tone, emotion, and empathy whereas men tend to be more task-oriented, less talkative, and more isolated. Men have a more difficult time understanding emotions that are not explicitly verbalized, while women tend to intuit emotions and emotional cues. These differences explain why men and women sometimes have difficulty communicating and why men to men friendships look different from friendships among women.*

Left Brain vs. Both Hemispheres: *Men tend to process better in the left hemisphere of the brain while women tend to process equally well between the two hemispheres. This difference explains why men are generally stronger with left-brain activities and approach problem-solving from a task –oriented perspective while women typically solve problems more creatively and are more aware of feelings while communicating.*

Mathematical Abilities: *An area of the brain called the inferior-parietal lobule (IPL) is typically significantly larger in men, especially on the left side, than in women. This section of the brain is thought to control mental mathematical ability, and probably explains why men frequently perform higher in mathematical tasks than do women. Interestingly, this is the same area of Einstein's brain that was discovered to be abnormally large. The IPL also processes sensory information, and the larger right side in women allows them to focus*

on, “specific stimuli such as a baby crying in the night”.

Reaction to Stress: *Men tend to have a “fight or flight” response to stress situations while women seem to approach these situations with a “tend and befriend” strategy. Psychologist Shelly E. Taylor coined the phrase “tend and befriend” after recognizing that during times of stress women take care of themselves and their children (tending) and form strong group bonds (befriending).*

Language: *Two sections of the brain responsible for language were found to be larger in women than in men, indicating one reason that women typically excel in language-based subjects and in language associated thinking. Additionally, men typically only process language in their dominant hemisphere, whereas women process language in both hemispheres. This difference offers a bit of protection in case of a stroke. Women may be able to recover more fully from a stroke affecting the language areas in the brain while men may not have this same advantage.*

Emotions: *Women typically have a larger deep limbic system than men, which allows them to be more in touch with their feelings and better able to express them, which promotes bonding with others. Because of this ability to connect, more women serve as caregivers for children. The down side to this larger deep limbic system is that it also opens women up to depression, especially during times of hormonal shifts such as after childbirth or during a women's menstrual cycle.*

Brain Size: *Typically, men's brains are 11-12 percent bigger than women's brains. This size difference has absolutely nothing to do with intelligence, but is explained by the physical size between men and women. Men need more neurons to control their greater muscle mass and body size, thus generally have a larger brain.*

Pain: *Men and women perceive pain differently. In studies, women require more morphine than men to reach the same level of pain reduction. Women are also more likely to vocalize their pain and to seek treatment for their pain than are men.*

Susceptibility to Disorders: *Because of the way men and women use the two hemispheres of the brain differently; there are some disorders that men and women are susceptible to in different ways. Men are more apt to have dyslexia or other language problems. If women have dyslexia, they are more likely to compensate for it. Women, on the other hand, are more susceptible to mood disorders such as depression and anxiety. While handedness is not a disorder, these brain tendencies also explain why more men are left-handed than are women. Men are also more likely to be diagnosed with autism, ADHD, and Tourette's syndrome.”*

After reading the above I think you will enjoy this below article that my wife gave me, written by an Anonymous author.

"Men and women have their faults. Men have only two faults; everything they say and everything they do. A successful man is one who makes more money than his wife can spend. A successful woman is one who can find such a man.

When women are depressed they either eat or go shopping. Men invade another country. A man will pay two dollars for a one dollar item he wants. A woman will pay one dollar for a two dollar item she doesn't want.

Diamonds are a girl's best friend. Dogs are man's best friend. Now you know which sex is smarter. Man's primary fantasy is access to a number of beautiful women.

Commitment means giving up this fantasy. Men marry because they are tired; women because they are curious. A woman worries about the future until she gets a husband while a man never worries

about the future until he gets a wife. A woman will cherish the memory of the man who wanted to marry her; while a man will cherish the memory of the woman he didn't marry.

Men always want to be a woman's first love. Women want to be a man's last romance. To be happy with a man, understand him a lot and love him a little. Whereas with a woman, love her a lot and don't try to understand her at all. There are only two times a man doesn't understand a woman- before marriage and after marriage. There are only two ways to keep one's wife happy- let her think she's having her own way, and letting her have her own way.

A woman marries a man expecting he will change, but he doesn't. A man marries a woman expecting that she won't change and she does. Married men live longer than single men, but married men are more willing to die. Any married man should forget his mistakes - no sense in two people remembering the same things. If women knew what men were thinking, they'd never stop slapping them.

A woman has the last word in any argument. Anything a man says after that is the beginning of a new argument."

I hope you have enjoyed reading this column for some facts and humor.

Its goes without saying that it is both a pleasure and an honor to serve you and our great Nation.

Migwetch

David Barrett/Mnedobe (Sits with the Spirit)
Oklahoma Legislature,
District10
DBarrett@Potawatomi.org

District 13 - Bobbi Bowden



Bozho Nikan (Hello, my friend)

It is almost that time again!

Time to begin making plans for the annual Family Reunion Festival! Please see the registration form in the Hownikan as well as the following information taken from www. Potawtomi.org.

The web site includes great information including lodging location and RV Space reservations. To reserve RV Space you can contact Tribal Rolls at (405)878-5835.

The annual reunion of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation is a celebration of native culture for the Potawatomi. The festival occurs yearly during the final weekend of June and is open

only to tribal members and their guests. The activities include Grand Entry, cultural classes, a dance contest and General Council.

Tribal elections are decided during the family reunion festival and in person voting occurs on Saturday from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the tribal courtroom in the Citizen Potawatomi administration building.

The annual General Council meeting is held on Saturday at 3 p.m.

For those of you that are able to attend the festival and have not been to the grounds

in a while, you will be so impressed and proud of the improvements made. This includes the incredible Eagle Aviary. Tours of the aviary are done by appointment only. Information and arrangements may be made by contacting the Aviary at (405) 275-3121.

For those of you that enjoy social media, our tribal rolls department has a Facebook page that includes a lot of useful information as well as gives you the opportunity to ask questions and get information from the staff. The Facebook page is called Citizen Potawatomi Nation-Tribal Rolls.

disrespecting tradition can discolor an entire Grand Entry in my mind. For boys and men, tank tops are inappropriate. You need a ribbon shirt, sash, or even a bandoleer bag. We are a proud people and our regalia is a vivid expression of ourselves and our unique place in this world.

Now is the time I also take my fans out and inspect them. I have three fans. Since I use one more than the others for personal prayer, I have to smoke the others and my son's at least once a year. When I burn cedar, the oil from the smoke coats the feathers as I pass my fan through and it protects the feathers from dust mites and mildew. If there is a spot that needs cleaning, I use a dry Q-tip to remove the dust or a Q-tip with a tiny bit of rubbing alcohol to remove mildew and then smooth the feathers back down. When I

I look forward to meeting many of you during festival. Please feel free to contact me at Bbowden@potawatomi.org with any questions or if I may be of service to you.

It is my honor to server as one of your Legislative Representatives.

Migwetch, (Thank you)

Bobbi Bowden (Pesnequah)
Legislative Representative,
District 13

District 11 - Lisa Kraft



Festival Finishing Touches

I'm getting excited about the upcoming festival this June. Each year, there is always something new to add to my regalia, like a necklace I have been given or a special item to put on my belt or in my purse. My legislative friends have also given me things to wear in my hair, a silver

bracelet, and even a container for tobacco. My belt and purse contain everything I need to be a strong, independent woman if I found myself having to live in nature and provide for my family. The objects are both symbolic and functional. And like the days of old, my adornments could be traded for items of necessity. All of the things I wear and carry have a special meaning.

I also add something new to my son's bandoleer bag each year. These gifts will be passed down to his children someday, and hopefully, be part of dance regalia for many generations to come. Festival, for me, is a visual celebration of family. I think of the drumbeat as my own beating heart when I dance in Grand Entry and begin to silently pray for family and friends no longer on this earth.

Even though we dance in the

heat of summer during the Heritage Festival, changing into your regalia is a must, just as you would change to dress for an important ceremony like a wedding or graduation. And like a graduation ceremony, you would be embarrassed to walk across the stage without a cap and gown. The same goes for entering our blessed arena for the Posting of the Colors, Grand Entry, and Honor Dances. Shawls should be unfolded and worn over clothing if you do not have traditional regalia, otherwise it is draped over your arm. There is plenty of time to ask to borrow a shawl or make your own. Long flowing skirts and a simple blouse are a much better alternative to short shorts and a strapless top. I saw a person wear just a t-shirt over a wet bathing suit year before last and was so disappointed. One person

Walking On...



Denver Alan and Martha Ann Holloway

Denver Alan, 54, and Martha Ann (Johnson) Holloway, 53, of Paden, died March 11, 2013, at their residence in Paden.

He was raised by W.E. and Glenda Blevins. Denver grew up in Pittsburg and Hughes counties, graduating from Stuart High School. Denver furthered his education by attending Okmulgee Tech, where he trained to be a diesel mechanic.

Martha Ann Johnson was born Oct. 10, 1959, in Corcoran, Calif., the daughter of Grover Harrison and Patricia Ann (Stewart) Johnson. She moved to the McAlester area at the age of nine. She received her education in Savanna, graduating with the Savanna High School class of 1977.

Denver and Martha met during their school years and were united in marriage on Sept. 20, 1977. They enjoyed a wonderful 35 years of marriage together.

Denver worked at U.P.S. in McAlester for a number of years as a diesel mechanic, while Martha enjoyed various jobs in the banking industry, as well as others. They would eventually work side by side in the farming industry, as they spent several years working near Shawnee at the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Farm and most recently, for Jimmy and Selena McGuire at their farm in Paden.

Denver and Martha loved traveling to the Carolinas. They were also NASCAR Racing fans and enjoyed gospel and country music. Denver was an accomplished musician with the ability to play a number of instruments, most recently added to the list was the steel guitar.

They are survived by daughter, Stephanie Ann Barlow and her husband, Dusty, of McAlester; son, Ross Alan Holloway of Paden; Martha's parents, Grover and Patricia Johnson of McAlester; Denver's sisters, Jermda Lawrence of Bartlesville and Dawn Moon and her husband, Tom, of McAlester; Martha's brothers, Lyndon Johnson and his wife, Lucy, of Anacortes, Wash., and Doug Johnson and his wife, Althea, of McAlester. They are also survived by numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and dear friends.

They were preceded in death by Denver's parents, W.E. and Glenda Blevins; Denver's paternal grandparents, Bill and Keddie Blevins; Denver's maternal grandparents, Harland and Pearl Hull; Martha's paternal grandparents, Alvin and Gladys Johnson; Martha's maternal grandparents, Ed and Bernice Stewart; and Martha's brother, Marvin Eugene Johnson.

The family wishes to thank Jimmy and Selena McGuire for their compassion and kindness during this difficult time.

Memorial service will be at 2 p.m., Tuesday, March 19, at McAlester Southeast Oklahoma Expo Center

under the direction of Bishop Funeral Service. Rev. Bart Patterson and Mr. Terry Trivitt will officiate.



Leland "Rusty" Russell Myers, Jr.

Leland "Rusty" Russell Myers, Jr., resident of Ponca City, passed away Thursday, January 31, 2013, at his home. He was 61 years of age.

Rusty was born on September 27, 1951 in Pawnee, the son of Leland "Stormy" Russell Myers and Barbara Ann Kitterman Myers. He attended Fairfax High School, graduating in 1969, and later attended Northwestern University in Alva and Oklahoma State University. He worked as a Mail Carrier for the United States Postal Service at the time of his death. Prior employment included working as an Instructor of Farm Business Management at Ponca City Pioneer Technology Center. Rusty also assisted his parents with their family farm and ranch in Fairfax.

Rusty served his country in the United States Air Force after graduating high school, serving in Thailand where he met and fell in love with his wife. He was honorably discharged in 1974. Upon being discharged, he was awarded the following commendations: National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with One Bronze Star attached, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, and Air Force Good Conduct Medal.

He married Wanna Maria Sopon on his 23rd birthday at his parents' home in Fairfax. In 1978, they renewed their vows at St. John's Catholic Church in Stillwater and enjoyed 38 years of marriage.

He is a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church, Potawatomi Nation and the NRA. His enjoyments included the outdoors, hunting, fishing, sporting clays, family vacations, classic rock music, and watching his family grow.

He is survived by his wife; three children, Adrienne Maria Smith and her husband Ryan of Dallas, Chad Joseph Myers and Rachel Teresa Myers of Ponca City; two grandchildren, Sheridon Grace Beaston and Grayson Christopher Smith; mother; brother, Mark Myers; sister, Becky Knight; nephews, Michael Myers, Dallas and Hadyn Knight (God son); nieces, Mary Myers and Mallory Knight; special brothers and friends, Ted Hazelbaker and Dr. Phillip Knight and their entire families; special families, Roger and Kim Stacy, Gary and Beverly Phillips, Mark and Susan Fisher, Jim and Kathy Elston, Trish and Brandon Dilbeck, Ponca City Post Office, and PCMC Critical Care Unit; and numerous extended family and friends in the U.S. and in Thailand.

He was preceded in death by his father; grandparents, Harry and Myrtle Myers, Lloyd and Evelyn Kitterman; great grandparents, Quincey "Q.O." and Pearl Irons, Orville and Grace Kitterman; uncle, Scott Kitterman; great uncle, Floyd Kitterman.

Kitterman.

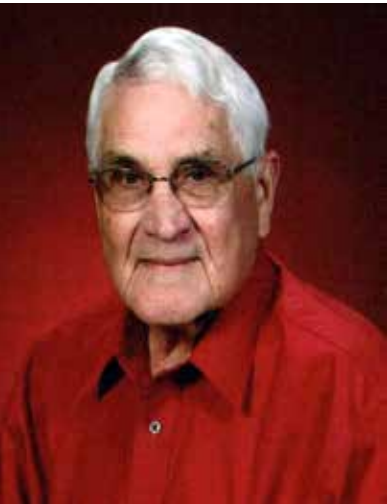
A Rosary and memorial service will be held at 3 p.m., Sunday, February 10, 2013 at the Trout Funeral Home chapel with Father John Aram serving as celebrant. Arrangements are under the direction of Trout Funeral Home & Crematory.

Urn Bearers will be the children and grandchildren of Rusty.

God's speed Dad, you were a good husband, father, grandfather "Tah", brother, uncle and friend to all. You were a true Christian even before you became a Catholic. We love you and will miss you. - Your wife, children, grandchildren, family and friends.

In lieu of flowers and plants, memorial contributions may be made to Ponca City's St. Mary's Catholic Church, the American Cancer Society or charity of your choice.

His online guest book may be signed at www.troutfuneralhome.com.



Russell "Gordon" Guinn

July 20, 1936 – February 22, 2013

Beloved husband, dad and grandpa, Russell "Gordon" Guinn passed away peacefully at home in Ojai, Calif. on February 22, 2013.

Russell "Gordon" was born to Curtis and Laura (Mars) Guinn of Maud, Okla. on July 20, 1936. He moved to California as a young child with his family, and they settled in Ojai, Calif. He attended Ojai schools and graduated from Nordhoff High School in 1955. He enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1958 and was on Active Duty and in the Reserves for five years. After his service, he started his trade in construction in the field of Industrial Plumbing and Pipefitting.

He met his beloved wife, Mary, in Ojai, and they were married at St. Thomas Aquinas Chapel in 1960. Their daughter, Michelle, his pride and joy was born five years later. His family was most important to him and he was proud of his grandchildren, Christina and Joshua. He was an active member of St. Thomas Aquinas Church and volunteered in many capacities at the church and parish school over the years. Gordon was proud of his Native American heritage and was a lifelong registered tribal member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation in Shawnee, Okla. His life echoed the true Native American spirit.

Gordon is survived by his loving wife of 53 years, Mary; his daughter, Michelle and her husband Anthony Di Bernardo of Ventura, Calif.; grandchildren, Christina and Joshua; sister, Jacqueline Jackson of Maud, Okla.; brother David Guinn of Wash.; and numerous other cherished family members.

A funeral Mass was celebrated at 11 a.m. on Friday, March 8, 2013 at St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Ojai, Calif. Private family interment was held at Ivy Lawn Memorial Park in Ventura, Calif. He will

be deeply missed but never forgotten by those who knew and love him.



Mary Ruth Bledsoe

Mary Ruth Bledsoe, 78, of Gladstone, Mo., went home to be with her Lord on Thursday February 28, 2013. She was born in Ada, Okla. on October 10, 1934. She was the daughter of Louis and Nellie (Hicks) Melott. She was united in marriage on June 8, 1952 to Jimmie W. Bledsoe. They moved from Oklahoma to Kansas City, Mo. in November 1952 and were lifelong residents of Gladstone, Mo. Mary was a proud member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation of Shawnee, Okla.

Her passion was singing as she was an active church choir member for over 30 years. She received a vocal scholarship from NEO College in Miami, Okla. right out of high school. She was a member of Metro Baptist Church. She worked at Whitaker Cable in the Personnel Department. She retired in 1986 as a Personnel Manager for Parmelee Plastics in order to travel the country with her husband.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Jimmie; siblings, Lue Bell Hash, Cardila Mitchell, Katie Ferri, Viola Burrow, and Thelma Highland. Survivors include her two sons, Ricky Bledsoe, Randy Bledsoe and wife Patti, all of Gladstone; her sister, Emily Smith of Tulsa, OK; her brother, Joe Melott of Shawnee, Okla. and many nieces and nephews. She will be missed by many.

Services are set for 12 p.m. Tuesday, March 5, 2013 at White Chapel Funeral Home with burial to follow in White Chapel Memorial Gardens. The family will receive friends from 6-8 p.m. Monday at the funeral home.



Susan Renay Pizana

Susan Renay Pizana was born to Orton and Nadine Haley on October 2, 1955 in Turlock, California. Susan passed away peacefully on December 18, 2012 in Fresno, California at the age of 57. Susan was raised in the Atwater area and graduated from Atwater High School. She was a Homemaker for many years, Susan found her calling as a Foster Parent to many children, she was a warm and loving person who opened her heart and home to children in need of her love. Susan is survived by her husband, Manuel Pizana, her daughters, Jessica Hubbard, Jennifer Smith and one son Derek Smith, one brother Orton John Haley, 7 grandchildren and numerous foster children. A visitation

was held on Thursday, December 27, 2012 from 10a. followed by burial services at Winton District Cemetery in Winton.



Georgie Maxine Hester

Georgie Maxine Hester, best known as Maxine, passed away February 7, 2013. One of nine children, she was born August 26, 1926 in Harrah, Okla. to Max and Pauline Whisenant. She was a long time resident of Choctaw and was Valedictorian of her high school class. Maxine married Albert Hester March 24, 1946. She and Albert owned Cupboard Antiques and loved collecting antiques as well as traveling to sell them. Maxine enjoyed sewing and painting. She and Albert enjoyed being close to family and being a part of the church family at First Baptist Church of Choctaw.

Preceded in death by her son, Jim, and grandsons: James Michael Hester and Brian Taylor, two brothers and four sisters. Survived by husband, Albert Hester; son, Max Hester of San Antonio, son, Bert Hester and wife, Liz of Shawnee; grandson, Hank Hester and wife, Twylla and children: Haley, Hannah, and Hank of Yukon; grandson, Kyle Hester and wife, Laci and children: Grace, Nate, Gabe, and Liam of Sapulpa; Kim Hester and fiancée, Darin Nei of Norman; and Jon Hester of Tulsa; and Candy Hester, daughter-in-law of Choctaw.

Also surviving her are sisters, Jimmie King of Choctaw and Kathryn Sandlin and husband, Harold of Houston along with numerous nieces and nephews and other family members and friends. Funeral services were held Saturday, February 9, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. at Choctaw First Baptist Church with burial to follow at Elmwood Cemetery in Choctaw, Okla.

To submit an obituary, please send a word document and 300 dpi photo to hownikan@potawatomi.org.